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A DISCOURSE,

WHEREIN

The Interest of the PATIENT in Reference to PHYSICK and PHYSICIANS is soberly debated.

Many ABUSES of the APOTHECARIES in the Preparing their MEDICINES are detected, and Their *Unfitness* for *Practice* Discovered.

Together with

The Reasons and Advantages of *Physicians* preparing their own *Medicines*.

by Dr. Cox

Πανταχοῦ εὕροις ἂν ξυμφυὲς ἀγαθῷ κακὸν, πολλὰ τῷ ὁμοίῳ ἀνακεκραμένον: μιμεῖται, πῶς Συκοφάντη Ῥήτωρα, καὶ Σοφιστὴς Φιλόσοφον καὶ ΦΑΡΜΑΚΟΠΩΛΗΣ ΙΑΤΡΟΝ. *Max. Tyr. Dissert.* X.

LONDON,
Printed for C. R. MDCLXIX.

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IMPRIMATUR,

Sam. Parker, R. Domino ac Domino *Gilberto* Archi-Epiſcopo *Cantuarienſi* à Sacris Domeſticis.

Ex Edib. Lambeth, Novem. 2. 1668.

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

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The Preface To the Reader.

IT being uſual for Authors in Prefaces to render an account of the occaſion which gave Birth to their writings, and to acquaint the Reader with the deſign or ſcope of their Diſcourſes, I thought it convenient to continue a cuſtom approved by many Illuſtrious examples.

Let me therefore give thee to understand, that it is not desire of applause hath engaged me in this Controversie. The care I have taken to conceal my Name will, I suppose, free me from such suspicion; but besides, let me assure thee I am too far from promising my self any addition to my Repute from this scrible, That I do rather apprehend it will lessen my Esteem with many of those excellent Persons, who are now pleased to Honour me with their Friendship: and do expect from me Discourses very different from those I here present thee. Which considerations surely will gain me credit, when I affirm That no Motive besides that of publick

lick advantage could ever have prevailed upon me, to exchange my darling Studies of Experimental Philosophy, and Physick (most pleasing and profitable imployments) for barren Controversie, which I ever declined. And among all, if I had consulted my own quiet or Interest, I should have avoyded this wherein I have now engaged; which may occasion me much trouble, but cannot possibly bring me any advantage, besides that satisfaction which is alwayes the result of Actions well intended. Which pleasure I must confess will be much heightned, if this endeavour of mine meets with good entertainment and work the desired Effect; which that it may have, I

will particularly addreſs my ſelf to all the Perſons concern'd with me in this debate: Who are the People or Patients, and Phyſicians.

This Diſcourſe is chiefly intended for the Firſt, it being they, who are moſt highly injured by the unwarrantable practices of thoſe we have therein accuſed; for although many underſtanding Perſons among the People are ſufficiently ſenſible of the abuſes we have manifeſted; and that it is of abſolute neceſſity ſome reformation be made: yet all are not thus perſwaded, for we may daily obſerve, that many who are leſs diſcerning, being deceived by an imaginary good, covet their own ruine; and unleſs they be given to un-

understand which is the evil and which the good, by persons in whom they have reason to confide, they must necessarily run much hazard. I have here endeavoured to undeceive them, which I should d'spair of, did I only foresee inconveniences a far off (the Vulgar being led by sense, and not by probable conjectures) but since they do now actually labour under many, and those obvious inconveniences, how short soever their sight be, the sense of feeling being no less acute in them, than in others I perswade my self they will readily give their assent to those Truths I have here discovered. Now there are many things whereof most Apothecaries are highly guilty, as care-

leſneſs, Unskilfulneſs, Unfaithfulneſs on the one hand, and Intruſion into the Phyſicians Imployment (I mean the Practice of Phyſick) on the other: on all which accounts as I have fully demonſtrated, they are exceedingly injurious to the Publick, In order to the prevention of ſuch unpardonable abuſes of the People I have made this Propoſal, That Phyſicians prepare and diſpence their own Medicines; and at large ſhewed That the advantages of ſuch a Conſtitution will be many and great. For it will much abate the charge and expence of Phyſick, and the Medicines themſelves will be more ſafe and effectual than now they are, intereſt obliging Phyſicians

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ans to have their Phyſick as good as they can contrive or prepare; and certainly ſuch a State of Phyſick of all other is moſt deſirable, wherein no man having the Intereſt can have the Power, nor any having the Power can have the Intereſt to prepare Medicines unfaithfully: wherein bad men ſhall be made good, and thoſe that are good never be tempted to become diſhoneſt. And in that Conſtitution of Pharmacy for which we contend, ſuppoſe men be never ſo bad; yet nevertheleſs their wickedneſs cannot have any ill influence on Phyſick, *as is manifeſted at large in this following Diſcourſe: ſo that*

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if the ſick have regard, either to profit or ſafety, they will addreſs themſelves to thoſe Perſons who ſupply them with the beſt Remedies, and at cheapeſt Rates.

And as for Phyſicians, they muſt neceſſarily put their affaires into ſome ſuch Method, as this we have commended; If they have any concern for their Patients, or intend to improve Pharmacy it ſelf. For as it hath been well obſerved, if we depend only upon that we read in Books, we ſhall never promote this Art beyond its preſent limits; and if Phyſicians in former times had not been knowing in Simples, examined their Vertues, and Tempers, enquired into their Effects, and mixed them

them with their own hands, there had been no such Science as Physick. Now according to the Antient Axiom, Ex quibus Constamus, ex iisdem Nutrimur, *Those things which gave a being to this Noble faculty must help to make it compleat; towards which as nothing can contribute more than the improvement of* Pharmacy: *so neither can any thing promote that, more than Physicians taking it into their Management. But besides all this, it is fit that they who* exercise *themselves in the* Practice *of* Physick, *be satisfied their Medicines are good; whereby their Mind will be free, and without any clog: which would add more difficulties and*

dangers

dangers to a thing by it ſelf hard and dangerous.

Theſe and other Conſiderations mentioned and inſiſted on in the following Diſcourſe will I aſſure my ſelf, perſwade all Phyſicians who have reſpect to the good and benefit of their Patients, Honour of their profeſſion, or own Reputation, to put Pharmacy into other hands, and into better Methods, than thoſe wherein at preſent it is; Whereby they who now diſhonour it (I mean the Apothecaries) will either be reduced to a ſenſe and performance of their Duty, or ſufficiently puniſhed. For Notwithſtanding that they do now Unanimouſly reſolve with aſſociated endeavours to Oppoſe all Reformation

mation; yet I am perſwaded that if Phyſicians take ſome ſuch courſes as thoſe I have mentioned, the event will be the ſame with that of Mutinies. Where if the Commander be reſolute he makes ſome of the Mutineers exemplary, and threatens others; of fierce, that they were in general, each one out of his particular Fear becomes obedient: So how inſolent ſoever the Apothecaries now are when they ſee their Puniſhment neer and certain, not truſting to one another, they will haſten all to Obedience; eſpecially if good encouragement be given to thoſe who return to their Duty, and become Reformadoes.

And now (to haſten to a Conclu-

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ſion) if any fancy, we have too rudely attaqued the Apothecaries, let them conſider (and then certainly they will excuſe us) that what we have done is only in our own defence; for we had never interrupted their quiet, could they have contained themſelves within due limits and not invaded our Profeſſion. So that if the Caſe be ſtated rightly, it will appear moſt evident, that we are on the Defenſive part, They the Aggreſſors; and that we cannot juſtly be blamed, if in our own Defence we offend them: or if being forced, we take violent Courſes, whoſe End yet is not (as may be pretended) Deſtruction and confuſion, but Order and redreſs.

Nothing

to the Reader.

Nothing now remains but that I Apologize for the defects of the ensuing Diſcourſe. It may be objected, that the Method is not exact, the expreſſion rude, the Style unpoliſhed and abrupt, the parts not cloſly cemented by handſom and ſutable Tranſitions. All which I readily acknowledge: But withall Deſire the Readers to conſider that this Book was begun and finiſhed within the ſpace of ſix or eight dayes at the moſt; and even then I was not free from diverſions of many kinds: ſo that being penned in ſo ſhort a time, the ſubject it ſelf unpleaſant, and the writer variouſly diſtracted, it is ſcarcely poſſible it ſhould be compleat in Method or

Expreſſion

Expreſſion. Beſides, this Diſcourſe was not calculated for Scholars, but for the Vulgar to whoſe capacity it is adapted; for if I had intended to inſtruct the former, I would have taken more time and pains, digeſted the matter better, diſpoſed it more advantageouſly, and endeavoured to cloath it in more handſome expreſſions.

I muſt not here forget to acknowledge, that I have borrowed ſeveral paſſages from the judicious Author of a late excellent Diſcourſe concerning the State of Phyſick, and the regulation of its Practice. I ſuppoſe it will be eaſily imagined that I could have ſpoken the ſame things in other words; but

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my respect for that Worthy Person disposes me to believe they will sound better and be more effectual in his own language; although I must crave his pardon for transposing some, and accommodating others to a proposal, he did not then think fit to mention.

For Faults in Printing &c. the Printer must be responsible; and particularly for that formall beginning of the 177. Page, *which was never so intended by the Author.*

This is all with which I thought fit to acquaint thee, I shall therefore now end with this request. That thou determine nothing in the behalf, or to the prejudice of this per-

performance, till thou haſt impartially examined all that is contained therein; and then if it appear that I have ſpoken truth, I expect it ſhould be owned and promoted by thee: if I be in any thing miſtaken I am content to hear of it, and ready to retract whatſoever is not conſonant to Truth and Reaſon.

A

DISCOURSE

WHEREIN

The Intereſt of the Patient in reference to *Phyſick* and *Phyſicians* is ſoberly Debated, &c.

IN all Ages, and among all Nations, Health hath obtained the repute of being the greateſt among Earthly felicities, in the abſence whereof we cannot reliſh any of thoſe numerous enjoyments which the bountifull Creator hath plentifully beſtowed on us; ſo that the moſt ſublime Antient Philoſophers, who

excluded all other External good from being neceſſary to the well-being of Man, placing happineſs onely in thoſe things whereof we cannot be deprived: yet out of them they excepted Health, knowing there was ſo near a Connexion between the Soul and Body, that this could not be diſordered in its Functions, but that would be diſturbed in its Operations.

Hence it was, that even among the Wiſeſt, that Science or Art, whereby thoſe Defects we call Diſeaſes were repaired, was always accounted Divine; and the Miniſters or Diſpenſers of this Skill were looked on as the hands of the Gods: and ſome of them held the firſt places among their Deified Mortals.

It is well known how great a name *Hippocrates* obtained, not onely in *Greece* (which he delivered from a depopulating Plague) but in remote parts; ſo that the greateſt Monarch in the *Eaſt*, and his Vice-Roys, were ſuitors

ſuitors to him to free their Country from that devouring Diſeaſe, which threatned to exhauſt thoſe populous Regions of their Inhabitants: unleſs the ſame Perſon which freed *Greece*, interpoſed, whom they eſteemed Divine, and deſcended from the Gods, becauſe ſo Succeſsfull in ſuch great undertakings.

Neither did the Reputation of Phyſick die with that excellent Perſon, but was afterwards in ſuch high account, that the greateſt Kings were its chief Profeſſors, and Cherithers; and thought to render themſelves more famous (as indeed they did) by finding out the Virtues of ſome ſingle Plant, or by the contriving of ſome noble Compoſition, and leaving their Names entailed on them: than by their acquiſts of Countries, or enlargement of Empire.

And the Profeſſion of Phyſick, although neglected by the rude antient *Romans*; yet with the increaſe of Ci-

vility, Arts and Sciences, this noble Faculty made a proportionable progreſs in the eſteem of that then judicious people: and it hath ever ſince been moſt honoured, and encouraged in the moſt civilized thriving Nations and Times; Neither was it ever exploded, but where Barbariſm or Ignorance prevailed.

So that, when I conſider, what reverence hath been paid to this Profeſſion, and the Profeſſors thereof, in all times whereof we have any particular account, I am amazed to find that in this latter Age, wherein it hath received a greater improvement than in two Thouſand years before, and daily makes a conſiderable and ſenſible progreſs; that nevertheleſs it ſhould be by many neglected, by others ſlighted, and by ſome even contemned. After a diligent enquiry into the cauſes of ſo ſtrange and ſuddain an alteration, I could not in my opinion ſo juſtly aſcribe it to Defects in the Profeſſion,

feſſion, as to thoſe of its Profeſſors. Not that I deny Phyſick to have its *Deſiderata*, for I believe it is capable of receiving great improvements; But howſoever, all this notwithſtanding, it might to this Day have been maintain'd at leaſt in the ſame degree of honour and eſteem which all Ages have juſtly had for it, if the imprudence of the Real, ignorance and baſeneſs of the pretended, Artiſts had not interpoſed. Under the former I compriſe the Phyſicians, under the latter their Dependants the Apothecaries, who I am confident have cauſed many of the inconveniences, under which the practice of Phyſick now labours; and will occaſion others, if not prevented, whereof Phyſicians are (not without reaſon) apprehenſive.

Perhaps I ſhall hardly find credit among ſuperficial obſervers, when I affirm, that the greateſt enemies Phyſick or Phyſicians have at preſent, are the Apothecaries, who ſhould be, and

are thought to be their fast friends; but this Assertion will easily gain belief with more discerning persons, who know that a false Friend is more dangerous than an open Enemy: of which the *Italians* are sufficiently sensible when they desire to be delivered from their friends, they being always upon their Guard against their professed Adversaries. And indeed it is much more easie for any one, who is acquainted with the thoughts, designs and affairs of him, to whom he pretends friendship, to injure him in his Person, Estate, or blemish his Reputation, than for another who is not privy to his intentions, nor intrusted with the management of his affairs. Hence it is, that Physicians cannot sustain much dammage from common Quacksalvers, or Mountebanks; and that they cannot promise themselves the same security from Apothecaries, will appear so evident in the ensuing discourse, that every unprejudiced Reader will

will readily conclude Physicians were either very facile, credulous, or else extremely improvident, when they committed so great a trust to the Apothecaries, in whom they reposed such confidence, that the short-sighted Vulgar were sensible of their danger before they themselves could imagine that, those whom they had so highly obliged, would prove unfaithfull to Physick and Physicians: But now they are forced, though late, to acknowledge, that the great Indulgence they shewed to them, and their notorious abuse of privileges, wherewith had Physicians been circumspect, or suspitious, they had never been acquainted, have occasioned those inconveniences, to which they now endeavour to bring a timely remedy. It is not without a great deal of regret, that they are necessitated to proclaim the Crimes of those whom they have too much, too long countenanced, too often vindicated; and they still retain to much kindness

for them, that if a private oppoſition could have reclaimed them, the Phyſicians would never have uſed ſo ſevere and violent a remedy, as is the expoſing their unworthy Principles and Practices to the view of the World: but ſince they are both ſo miſchievous, that to conceal, would be to permit, and allow them; and thereby to betray their Patients, themſelves, their Profeſſion and Succeſſors, they are therefore forced to declare how much themſelves, their Profeſſion, and the Sick are injured by thoſe vile arts of the Apothecaries, which we ſhall here diſplay.

It is well known they have great pretences (how fair we ſhall ſoon examine) to the practice of Phyſick; and are now arrived at that degree of confidence (not to ſay worſe) that they are not aſhamed to publiſh this before all men, whom by moſt unworthy, and illegitimate Artifices, they endeavour to alienate from the Phyſicians,

ſicians, and aſſure to themſelves. And beſides, they are not more fraudulent in their Practice, than unfaithfull in their preparations, few Phyſicians having the ſatisfaction they deſire, and it is fit they ſhould receive, that the Medicines they preſcribe are prepared after their direction; nothing being more frequent than for the Apothecary to employ bad Druggs, add, ſubſtract, or ſubſtitute at pleaſure one Ingredient inſtead of another. Now how conſiſtent theſe Actions are with the ends of their Inſtitution, we deſire not to be judges our ſelves, but appeal to all that have the exerciſe of Reaſon; and if after ſuch unpardonable abuſes, the Phyſicians do not deſert them, and make better proviſion for themſelves, and their Patients, they would be unworthy of the truſt repoſed in them, betray their Profeſſion to the ſcorn of the World, and themſelves ſoon become contemptible.

But yet although the Phyſicians might

might with juſtice wholly reject the Apothecaries, and are highly cenſured by many for their forbearance; and though the Apothecaries themſelves have little regarded their frequent Admonitions: yet ſuch is the tenderneſs of thoſe generous perſons, that they are determined once more to invite them to entertain a ſenſe of their Duty, and to return to that ſtate from which they are degenerated. Its true we have little hopes of their Reformation, an almoſt infallible Symptom of incorrigibleneſs, ſeeing their ſcandalous reflections on Phyſicians in moſt Companies, their entring into competition with them, nay, ſometimes preferring themſelves before them; their Aſſociations, not to endeavour the improving their Trade otherwiſe than by the decay of Phyſicians, their reſolution to ſtand by each other, and keep the Ground they have got by Treachery, reſolving with united Counſels and Purſes to withſtand any Refor-

Reformation the Phyſicians ſhall attempt among them. Theſe are their ordinary diſcourſes, and they do not ſcruple to give them forth, even in the preſence of ſober Phyſicians, who cannot certainly be blamed if they do ill reſent ſuch unhandſome and ſo ingrateſull a Carriage. But Charity obliges them to endeavour their amendment rather than their inevitable ruin, which they can when they pleaſe, effect by diſpenſing of their own Phyſick; the conveniences of which will be found ſo great by the people (as we ſhall manifeſt) that they would ſoon utterly deſert the Apothecaries and leave them in ſolitude to bewail their wretched improvidence; who when they might have had a comfortable and honeſt ſubſiſtence neglected it, that they might obtain a greater: though thereby many lives were hazarded, moſt of their Benefactors diſobliged; and how could they expect that building ſhould be laſting, whoſe foundation was laid in blood,

blood, and ingratitude. Yet how notorious ſoever matters of Fact are, leaſt they ſhould pretend innocence, and thence promiſe themſelves impunity, we ſhall firſt declare their enormous abuſes of Phyſicians and their Patients. Secondly, lay down certain Propoſitions, wherewith if they comply, we will oblige our ſelves yet to retain them. Thirdly, if they refuſe to ſubmit to ſuch reaſonable terms, we ſhall acquaint the World with ſome Methods whereby the Practice of Phyſick can be more ſucceſsfully managed by Phyſicians without the Apothecaries than it can poſſibly be with them, as they are now conſtituted.

The grounds of our Complaint againſt the Apothecaries are theſe.

That no Phyſicians can be certain, Medicines are made up according to their preſcription. So that after they have taken much pains to inform themſelves of the ſymptoms of the diſeaſe, to underſtand the cauſes of the di-

diſtempers, and have duely delibera-ted what are likely to prove the moſt proper remedies; which being judi-ciouſly preſcribed, they promiſe them-ſelves that ſucceſs which uſually at-tends ſolid Counſel: but after all this trouble, either from the deſign, Igno-rance, Careleſsneſs, or unfaithfulneſs of the Apothecaries, they are often fruſtrated, not ſo much to their own prejudice (which yet is not inconſide-rable) as to the Patients, which ſhall be here demonſtrated.

1. Phyſicians are ſubject to ſuffer from the malice or Deſign of Apothe-caries. Now although Charity obliges us to think well of all men, till their actions diſcover them to be bad; yet ſuch hath been the demeanour of the Apothecaries towards the Phyſicians, that they have reaſon to ſtand upon their guard, and hazard as little with them as they can. For ſome Apothe-caries having been, as they pretend, highly diſobliged by Phyſicians (I ſuppoſe,

ſuppoſe, becauſe for their own advantage, they would not permit them to injure their Patients by bad Phyſick) what aſſurance can the Phyſician have, that they do not meditate revenge; eſpecially ſince, if they have an opportunity, they can execute it, and be ſo far from being ſuſpected themſelves, that they may make a great advantage of their own miſcarriages. (which indeed they often do) As ſuppoſe a Phyſician with whom the Apothecary is diſguſted, preſcribe a Purge, the Apothecary may make it with Worm-eaten ſuperannuated Druggs, wherewith moſt of them are well ſtored; which very probably will not work according to the Phyſicians promiſe, and the Patients expectation: the Apothecary may be ready at hand to tell him that this was no ways accommodated to his temper; nay, perhaps he before-hand preſages to him, that it will not work ſufficiently, (as he may without Conjuring or Aſtrology)

logy) whereby he obtains the reputation of a perſon more judicious than the Phyſician, and makes way for this propoſition, That he will prepare a purge for him which ſhall work more effectually than the former. This perhaps is the ſame the Phyſician before preſcribed, but aſſuredly made up of better Druggs; and ſo the Apothecary at once executes his malice, and effects his deſign which is to exclude the Phyſician, and introduce himſelf. This is, indeed, a ſuppoſition, but I fear ſuch as is often practiced; and there are many Phyſicians who have found it true to their coſt: yet theſe are ſome of the more Innocent Cheats. I wiſh we be not often expoſed to others of worſe conſequence, than a ſlight diſgrace of the Phyſician, and abuſe of the Patient. Charity forbids me to ſuſpect worſe than I know, but what will not a diſhoneſt mind intent on revenge or gain, ſcruple? howſoever, I think it behoves Phyſicians to

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take ſuch care, that they and their Patients lye not expoſed to the deſigns of wicked Apothecaries; and that there either are, or may be ſome ſuch, they have reaſon at leaſt to fear, and Conſequently provide, that they be not injured by them.

2. Another thing Phyſitians find fault with, in many Apothecaries, is their ignorance in the Latin Tongue, which is of very ill Conſequence; for Phyſicians, for good reaſons, not here to be mentioned, have been long accuſtomed to write thoſe preſcripts, they ſend to the Apothecaries, in Latin: which not being rightly underſtood, hath often occaſioned, not only innocent, but alſo fatal miſtakes. And that a great part of the Apothecaries are very illiterate, is ſo evident that they themſelves dare not deny it. Nay, I have heard them often divert themſelves with the miſtakes committed by the younger Apothecaries at their Hall; where it is the Cuſtom before they

make

make an Apprentice (that hath ſerved ſeven, or eight or nine years) free of their Company, to put him to conſtrue a Doctor's bill, or ſomething in the Diſpenſatory; which is the only mark of reſpect they have left for Phyſicians: and if the Probationer eſcapes this dangerous tryal, he is admitted with great applauſe. But I do not hear of any, whom they exclude; and they have been highly offended at Phyſicians, excepting againſt them: yet many by their own relations, are guilty of groſs miſtakes; which though they may be pleaſant to talk of, yet are ſad and ſerious ones when they come to coſt people their lives, or ſo much as hazard them, which they frequently do. This aſſertion I could confirm by an innumerable company of inſtances, and there is ſcarce any Phyſician, who hath not been troubled with ſeveral of them in his Practice. Now if the Maſters themſelves are ſubject to theſe miſcarriages, what can we expect from the Servants, who we may

presume are in every respect, their Inferiours. These mistakes are either of one Material for another, or in the Quantities of the Materials; especially, when Physicians write them at length in Latin: for many of the Apothecaries understand the numbers only in figures, so that some of them know little difference between *Sexdecem Sexaginta* and *Sexcenta*; And of *duodeviginti* they will make at least twice twenty. And so for measures, sometimes mistakes proceed from their ignorance in the names of the *Materia Medica*. Among many other instances of this kind, That most unfortunate one recorded by an eminent Physician, is notorious, Of an Apothecary, who instead of a dose of *Mercurius Sublimatus Dulcis*, exhibited so much common Sublimate, a mortal poyson; which was scarce ever given inwardly, instead of an innocent Medicine, approved by all Physicians. Sometimes they mistake one operation for another, of which

which I could give a large account; but the mentioning of them will be ſufficient, ſince every Phyſician is able to make a fair Catalogue of them: and there are not many Apothecaries whoſe Conſciences will not at the mention of this, reproach them with the remembrance of many ſuch miſtakes, the meaneſt and moſt innocent, of which cannot but be a great injury to the Phyſician, and Patient. The firſt expects his Medicines ſhould have ſuch Operations as he might promiſe himſelf from them, if rightly prepared; the other waits for relief, which in theſe caſes is uſually the effect of Counſel, rarely of Chance: or if the miſcarriage prove fortunate, which hath ſometimes happened, the Patient is no more beholding to the Apothecary, than he was to the Enemy that cured him of an inward Ulcer (under which he had long languiſhed) by a thruſt with his Sword. For as that ſalutary wound would have proved mortal, if it had been in another

place; ſo theſe lucky miſtakes might be dangerous, if the Apothecary had lighted on another Material: which that he did not employ, cannot be aſcribed to his knowledge, Care or Sagacity, whatſoever he may afterward pretend.

3. Another Complaint againſt the Apothecaries, is, that they are not well acquainted with the *Materia Medica*; the knowledge whereof is an Eſſential part of their Profeſſion: but take the words of Druggiſts who themſelves are ſometimes miſtaken, and differ about the names of ſeveral druggs; and which is worſe, they truſt to Herb-women, who obtrude almoſt any thing upon the greateſt part of them. And that theſe women do often miſtake one thing for another, ſometimes ignorantly, otherwhile deſignedly, is well known to many Phyſicians; who have ſeen them ſell the Apothecaries, herbs, roots, and ſeeds, under other names, than thoſe they do really bear.

I do not affirm this of them all, for I am not Ignorant that ſome Apothecaries are good Herbariſts, whoſe diligence I cannot ſufficiently commend; and our induſtrious Country-men, *Parkinſon* and *Johnſon*, to whom we are beholding for their elaborate Herbals; were Apothecaries: although they have not wrote, eſpecially the former, with that judgment which is requiſite, and found in the writings of many Phyſicians, from whom indeed they derive the greateſt part of their knowledge, as they themſelves acknowledge. But the generality of Apothecaries are of another humour, they will eat the kernel, but give not themſelves the trouble of cracking the ſhell; take no pains to inform themſelves in thoſe things which are abſolutely neceſſary to the faithful diſcharge of their truſt, many among them cannot diſtinguiſh between Ingredients, noxious and ſalutary: ſo, That we have not Patients daily poyſoned, is rather

from the care of Herb-women, than Apothecaries. Now Physicians depending almost wholly on such Vegetables as our own Country affords for the cure of Diseases; which if rightly apply'd, are more proper, cheap, fuller of vertue and efficacy, than those that come from remote parts (excepting a few whose vertues are kept pretty entire) and some of them specificall for diseases, which others substituted in their place, may exasperate, though even they also upon another occasion may prove effectual: so that hence proceed many inconveniences. The Patient is not relieved, who perhaps might have been perfectly restored to former health; the Physician who would thereby have acquired repute, is neglected, if not disgraced: and which is worst of all, he distrusts; nay, perhaps wholly rejects remedies, commended in the books of experienced Physicians, or communicated to him by judicious faithful friends,

through

through the fault of the Apothecary, which might have proved conducive to promote the recovery of many ſick people, who after languiſh all their lives for want of ſome proper generous Medicine.

4. Moſt of the Apothecaries truſt to ſeveral for Compoſitions, in whom (how charitable ſoever the Apothecaries may be) Phyſicians have little reaſon to confide. There is it ſeems a great trade driven by many in this City, of ſelling Medicines by wholeſale. One makes *Treacle*, *Mithridate* or *Diaſcordium*, in great quantities; *Unguent's* Plaiſters, and what not: now many of the Apothecaries can buy ſuch Compoſitions cheaper of theſe perſons, than they can prepare them for, after the preſcription of the Colledge in their Diſpenſatory. This is a good thrifty courſe, but ſuppoſe a diſſatisfied Phyſician (of which not without Cauſe, there is a great number) ſuſpect, That theſe Compoſitions are not

made of ſound druggs, and other choice Ingredients; eſpecially ſince they afford them cheaper than other honeſt men can make them. And beſides, theſe men for the moſt part are not Apothecaries, or bred in that trade; but Operators, who caſually have taken up this way of living: ſo that their skill as well as honeſty is liable to be queſtioned. To theſe Objections the Apothecaries readily anſwer, That buying their Ingredients at the beſt hand, and in Quantities, they have them cheaper than thoſe that deal for ſmaller parcels; and beſides they have ſome peculiar knack in Compoſition, which ſaves them much trouble and expenſe. The firſt ſignifies ſomewhat, yet is not a ſufficient anſwer; but of what kind this latter ſhould be, an honeſt Apothecary, that ſurmiſes no worſe of others than he is conſcious of in himſelf, cannot eaſily imagine. To expend ſixpence leſs in fire in the making two hundred or three hundred pound weight of Plaiſter,

ſter, or Unguent, is not very conſiderable; ſo neither is Expeditenes or diſpatch, which at moſt cannot ſave much more in the ſame quantity: ſo that what this knack ſhould be, unleſs leaving out ſome of the moſt coſtly Ingredients, ſubſtituting others in their room, or uſing only ſuch as are periſhed and may be procured at eaſiy rates, I cannot conceive. And that thus it is, I am rather induced to believe, from what I my ſelf have often obſerved in the Shops of the Apothecaries among other abuſes, too many to mention. They ordinarily vend to thoſe that pay a price for the beſt that can be made, *Emplaſtrum Oxycroceum ſine croco*; which in down right Engliſh, is the Plaiſter of Saffron, without a grain of that noble Ingredient, from which it derives its name and moſt of its Vertues: which for the moſt part they borrow of their correſponding Plaſter-mongers. In ſhort, moſt of the Plaiſters and Unguents of the Shop, compared with thoſe that

are

are made by skilful and honeſt hands, are ſo unlike, that they may be eaſily diſtinguiſhed by the naked Eye, or ſome other of the Senſes which argues a ſufficient difference: but there is a much greater and more ſenſible in their effects, as hath been often experimented. And I have ſometimes heard ſome curious Chyrurgions grievouſly complaining of the Shop-traſh (they could beſtow no better title on it) and profeſſed, that if they uſed the Unguents and Plaiſters of the Apothecaries, their employment would keep pace with their cures, and be as little, as they few; whereas preparing thoſe Medicines they uſe themſelves, their ſucceſs is conſpicuous, and their Patients numerous. If Phyſicians did in this imitate the Chyrurgions, they would not have occaſion to complain ſo often, as now they do; and that, I fear, not without cauſe.

I cannot diſmiſs this Subject, before I take notice of an Obſervation

I have often made and admired at, which is, that the Apothecaries who are very tender of their Priviledges (to give them their due) and who pretend to have a Charter of large extent, ſhould yet nevertheleſs permit theſe Unguent and Plaiſter-ſellers to follow that way of traffique; whom yet they are ſo far from proſecuting and diſallowing, that on the contrary they ſeem to approve of them by keeping a Correſpondence with them, and buying their Commodities. Now what ſhould diſpoſe them to this tenderneſs and forbearance, of which they are not often guilty, I cannot imagine, unleſs it be intereſt? Theſe perſons furniſhing them with thoſe Compoſitions at ſuch eaſy rates, that I have my ſelf over-heard ſome of them queſtion, Whether they could poſſibly make them faithfully, ſince the very Ingredients, would coſt as much as the Plaiſters, &c. were ſold for? Which I confeſs is to me, a deep Myſtery: whether of Iniquity, let others judge. There

There is another Cuſtom among Apothecaries, whereof all Phyſicians do not approve; that is, there are ſome who make *Mithridate*, others *Treacle*, a third *Diaſcordium*; perhaps one, all theſe: another, that noble Preparation, *Pulvis è Chelis Cancrorum*, commonly known by the name of *Gaſcoign's* powder; others *Alchermes*, *Lenitive Electuary*, *Confectio Hamech*; ſome, *Syrups*; other, *Cordial waters*; and they drive a trade of Exchanging with each other, it being to be ſuppoſed, that making great Quantities, they can ſell cheap: which dealings render their Preparations ſuſpected to the Phyſitian, who often finds theſe Medicines to be as bad as they are cheap; and therefore moſt decline the uſe of Preparations, if they have not firſt an aſſurance that they are made by the Apothecaries themſelves, whoſe word we only have for it. But let us ſuppoſe they do really make all the Phyſick they diſpenſe, yet ſtill the Sceptical Phyſician will not be ſatisfied, having

having ſtill ſome ſcruples remaining; which, I fear, will not be eaſily removed.

5. It is therefore objected by many Phyſicians, who are ſomewhat more concerned for the good of their Patients, than the Apothecaries, as yet appear to be, That theſe in the Compounding of Phyſick employ bad druggs, and uſe ſuperannuated Medicines which are fit for the dunghill, without any previous Preparation; That if they want any Simple or Compoſition that is preſcribed, they ſubſtitute in its place ſome other, which (in their profound Judgments) they apprehend, approaches neareſt thereto. Beſides ſome of them have been found to add to ſome preſcriptions, and ſubſtract from others; One or the other, according to the ſuggeſtions of a petulant fancy. Theſe are grievous charges, and deſerve to paſs a ſevere *examen*, That if true, ſome remedy may be found againſt ſuch unpardonable abuſes; or if falſe, that the innocent

may

may be acquitted, and the ſcandal removed. Its commonly ſaid, *Vox populi, Vox Dei*: So that the Apothecaries being accuſed by both Phyſitians and their Patients, it is to be feared they are Criminal. But they will not permit us the Teſtimonies of Phyſicians, which they endeavour to render invalid; for being Conſcious that they have groſly abuſed them, they are perſwaded theſe will unanimouſly condemn them: therefore they are excepted againſt, as intereſted perſons, and their plea muſt not be allowed of. If we appeal to events, and tell them of perſons that have been, either manifeſtly injured by bad Phyſick; when that which was preſcribed, if it had been duely prepared, would in all probability have given them great relief: or if we mention others, on whom ſtrong purging, vomiting, or ſweating Phyſick, or ſuch, as if prepared after the Phyſicians preſcript, would have proved ſuch, hath had little or no ſenſible Operation,

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when the ſame faithfully prepared by other hands, or by the ſame, the Phyſician ſuperviſing, quickly diſplayed its nature according to his intention. All theſe things they aſcribe to chance, and pretend that when Phyſick hath not the deſired or promiſed effect, the Phyſician to excuſe his own defects, lays the blame on Apothecaries, or bad druggs. Since therefore we are excluded from theſe ways of proof (which yet no indifferent or unconcerned perſon will deny us) nothing remains, but that we accuſe them out of their own mouths. I remember a great Philoſopher tells us, that if we would know what actions are vitious, we ſhould enquire of the Vulgar, whoſe Conſciences force them generally to condemn what is bad in others, if they have no concern in the Action; for though they may approve of it in themſelves, when they apprehend, it's for their own advantage: yet they will endeavour ſo to diſguiſe and excuſe it, that it may not appear

pear in its native colour, but pass current under the notion of good, honest, or convenient. This is verified in the Apothecaries. There is no particular person that will acknowledge himself to be in the least faulty, they all faithfully prepare their Medicines; but if we will give credit to what they say of each other, we shall hear the contrary: for if the people urge against them, as well they may, the dearness of their Medicines (which frequently happens) I have often heard them reply, that they were faithfully prepared; and therefore deserved a greater price than those which others vended (its true) cheaper, because they were made with bad druggs, That surely none, who had any respect for their health, would grudge to give a small matter more, for good remedies than the worst would cost them: thus they generally exclaim on each other. And perhaps there are some who apprehend that few of them are wronged

wronged by these mutual Accusations.

But howsoever, either the Apothecaries are an envious, malicious sort of people, to traduce each other in affairs of so great consequence as those wherein the lives or welfare of many thousand men are at stake; or these accusations are true: either of which being allowed, must necessarily render the Apothecaries unworthy of any great trust, at least till they reform their words or actions. But truly I am inclined in this particular to believe what the Apothecaries affirme of each other, it being seconded by common Fame, and the observation of Physicians whose duty and interest obliges them to discover the intrigues of a Profession which hath so immediate a dependence on them, as indeed they on it.

It were an endless task to enumerate all the fraudulent tricks, which are used by those Apothecaries who are

not Conſcientious; for ſome I perſwade my ſelf there are, who keep ſtrictly to the end of their Inſtitution, the faithful and careful Preparation of Medicines: but I fear theſe are ſo few, that they are ſcarce obſerved in a croud of men ſo bad, that to endeavour to render them worſe then they are, were to throw Ink in the Face of an *Æthiopian*. And indeed I cannot ſay worſe of them then barely to relate their practices. I ſhall not take much notice of their buying bad Druggs, which they apprehend to be good, (and that they are often over-reached ſeems not impoſſible to thoſe who have been much converſant with many of them) Theſe being miſtakes of Ignorance, and therefore pardonable, ſo that I do not more blame then pitty them; and if many did not ſuffer for their unskilfulneſs I ſhould entertain a pure compaſſion for them without an alloy of Anger or Animoſity. But there remains other manner of miſcarriages than

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theſe, to be conſidered; and they are not innocent miſtakes, but deſigned cheats, and ſuch as not only the all-ſeeing God, but I hope man alſo will call them to an account for: ſuch are ſome of theſe. A great Copper Alembick at one Diſtillation (O wonderful accurtation) ſupplies a whole Shop with ſimple waters; for it's but flinging into a great quantity of Water in the Stillatory a handful of twenty or thirty ſorts of Herbs, as much of the Water being drawn off as is thought ſufficient, a due proportion is put into each Glaſs with its title. Now 'tis well known that moſt ſimple diſtilled Waters have neither ſenſible ſmell, nor taſte; and differ as to appearance no more from each other than the fixed ſalts of Plants, though we find both them and theſe have ſomewhat (at leaſt a few of them) different effects: So that this cheat is not ſo eaſily detected, as an unskilful perſon would be apt to imagine. But to give our

Apothecary his due, I cannot ſay he vends any of thoſe Waters, whereof he hath not put a handful into the Still, his Conſcience is not ſo large as to permit him to impoſe ſo groſly on his Patients; Nay, perhaps the Vertue of each Herb keeps it ſelf diſtinct in ſome portion of Water, without being confounded with its neighbour, as ſeveral Chymical Liquors, though never ſo much ſhaken, each retires to the ſtation aſſigned by thoſe various degrees of Gravity and Levity Nature or Art hath beſtowed on them; ſo that the ſagacious Apothecary may perhaps reſtore each Water to its proper Receptacle. But how poſſible ſoever this may ſeem, it doth not appear very probable; and till it can be demonſtrated, we ſhall look upon this as a deceitful Practice, and ſuch as no Phyſician will diſpenſe with. The ſame thread runs through many of their other Preparations, as in making Pectoral Syrups, one made up with a handful

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of each Ingredient ſerves for all. Some after that they have extracted the beſt of the tincture out of Saffron with ſpirit of Wine, to make the extract and ſpirit; then they pour more Spirit on the remaining Dreggs, which being ſtrongly expreſſed, the vinous Spirit is a little tincted: and this is often ſubſtituted in the place of that noble Tincture on which Phyſicians ſometimes depend too much, unleſs they could have it better prepared.

Another juſt cauſe of complaint the Phyſicians have againſt the Apothecaries, are their old Medicines; For ſuppoſe them as faithfully prepared as they can pretend, or we deſire: yet length of time will make ſome changes in them, which are not often improvements. Thus Syrups grow acid, and Waters full of Mother; Electuaries, and Pills dry, and deprived of their moſt active parts; Powders themſelves are not free from this fate, whoſe vertues in time we find marve-

lously diminished. But let the Physicians inculcate this and much more to them, they may with as good success preach to stone-walls; for not a Dram of any Medicine will the Apothecaries part with but for sale: so that they many times sell their Preparations five or six years after they were made; and whether their Medicinal properties are not much impaired, if they have any left, we leave to others to determine. And indeed the Apothecary hath many things in his Shop which are not called for in many moneths, yet these must be vended with the rest. All which when they have lost their Vertues, should they be rejected, it would be much to the prejudice of the Apothecaries; and they have a fundamental Maxim, that no such thing should be allowed of: for 'tis much better that the Patient should suffer somewhat in his Body than the Apothecary in his Estate. And if he injured by the bad Physick he took, perhaps he will have

pity

pitty on him, and the next Preſcripti-on ſhall be faithfully prepared; where-by he makes him abundant recompenſe for the hurt he received by that which was bad: and he himſelf makes an advantage of both. Although per-haps, if he had conſulted the Patient, he would rather have choſen to keep his Head ſound, than have it broken, that a proper Plaſter might be applied for the Cure. This is ſo notorious a Truth that all the World, even their beſt Friends exclaim againſt them for it; and till they amend this among many other Peccadilloes, the Phyſici-ans deſire to be excuſed that they ſcru-ple to employ them.

Another Property they have of ſub-ſtituting one Ingredient for another, which how pernicious a thing it is, un-leſs the Apothecary were equal or ſu-periour to the Doctor in judgment, is very apparent. This is a ſubject, on which every Phyſician can expatiate; but I omit it, not that 'tis leſs material

than the others, but because it is better known so that here to be particular were as great a Solœcisme as to carry Coals to *Castle*; for I should acquaint people, especially those who have been conversant with the practice of Physick with nothing, which they were not sensible of long since. I shall therefore wave this discourse and proceed to another complaint against the Apothecaries, which is,

That Apothecaries and their Servants are so Careless, Slovingly, and Slight in preparing of Dispensatory, or prescribed Medicines, that neither Physicians or the Diseased have reason to repose that trust in them which they challenge as their due. As for slovenliness they may I confess plead the old Proverb; that, *What the Eye sees not, the Heart rues not.* I confess of all the rest it may be best dispensed with, but should Patients but once behold how their Physick was prepared in some Shops, they would so

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nauſeate it, that perhaps they would undergo much, rather than take the leaſt Doſe ſo ordered. But leſt I offend nice queaſie Stomachs, I ſhall diſmiſs this Subject; and proceed to another, which is the careleſneſs of Apothecaries and their Apprentices: on which I can never reflect without Fear and Indignation; Indignation to think what numbers have been deſtroyed and injured by ſuch proceedings; Fear, leſt it ſhould be my own misfortune to ſuffer in my Repute, and in my Patients (for whom every honeſt Phyſician is paſſionately concerned, abſtractedly from his own intereſt) from the raſhneſs or careleſneſs of ſome giddy Apprentice or indiſcreet Maſter. That this is not a groundleſs apprehenſion many Families can witneſs; and you can converſe with few perſons, who are not able to give an account of ſome ſuch miſcarriages. Now although in theſe caſes the Patient is chiefly injured, yet it reflects

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alſo ſomewhat on the Phyſicians; if for nothing elſe, yet that they imploy perſons who are ſo little concerned for that precious Merchandiſe, the Lives of Men, that they will not be at the expenſe of a litttle Care, Pains and Trouble to ſecure them. In vain is it for a Pilot to direct the courſe of a Ship skilfully, if perſons ſhall make leakes in it under Water; the Wiſdom and Care of the Governour will not bring them to their deſired Haven; but even He with the Ship will ſuffer Shipwrack in his reputation, eſpecially if what was tranſacted in darkneſs be not diſcovered; for then it will be ſuppoſed that through his unskilfulneſs it ſplit upon ſome Rock, ſtruck on ſome Sand which might have been avoided. Now if Phyſicians and their Patients will not make proviſion againſt ſuch Dangers, they have no reaſon to complain when they ſuffer; ſince it is nothing but what they might eaſily have remedied.

Now

Now the laſt complaint of Phyſicians againſt the Apothecaries on the account of their Medicines which I ſhall mention, is their being moſt of them ſtrangers to Chymiſtry, which is no inconſiderable part of Pharmacy; whoſe Preparations at leaſt many of them are of great efficacy and come frequently in uſe. It's true indeed Phycians were formerly very ſhy of theſe Remedies, uſed them with great caution, and that not without good Reaſons; for although the Phyſicians were ſatisfied, that being faithfully prepared they were endowed with great Vertue: yet not being at leaſure themſelves to prepare them, and being earneſtly admoniſhed by *Helmont* and other eminent experienced Spagyriſts not to truſt to Venal Medicines made by common Operators, who for their private gain ſcruple not to adulterate, as indeed they ever did, and ſtill do, moſt of their Medicines; Therefore thoſe that conſulted the good and welfare of

their

their Patients, did rather wholly decline practice with those Sophisticated Medicines than expose their Patients to a manifest hazard. But of late years Chymistry is again come into request, for Physicians curiosity prompting them to prepare some particular Remedies themselves, others were bestowed on them by Persons of Quality who prosecuted Chymistry; only that they might oblige the publick with useful discoveries, especially in Medicine, such as That Honourable Person Mr. *Boyle*: and some few honest industrious Apothecaries preparing others for them, finding these Medicines of unusual efficacy, they were so far from decrying them (which some falsly object) that they were of frequent use among such whose good fortune it was to meet with these advantages. Others making use of those Preparations they had from unfaithful Apothecaries or Mercenary Chymist, and finding they had seldom good, frequently

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ill effects, they cannot be blamed for deſiſting from the uſe of what they found attended with ſo bad conſequences; which how injurious it hath been to the practice of Phyſick both in reference to the Phyſician and the Patient, will appear in the ſequel of this diſcourſe. Which that it may be more diſtinct, I ſhall proceed after this Method, *Firſt*, Shew what Chymiſtry is; and that its Medicines are of great efficacy, and ſafe. *Secondly*, That very many Chymical Medicines ill prepared, are dangerous, and cannot be ſafely uſed. *Thirdly*, That the Apothecaries are not furniſhed with ſuch Chymical Medicines as the Phyſicians can confide in. As to the Firſt, we ſay that Chymiſtry is an Art which teaches us how to divide bodyes into ſeveral parts; and being ſeperated, to purifie and again compound them according to the pleaſure of the Artiſt. Indeed according to the vulgar acceptation of the word it is an Art of making Gold and Silver out of

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baſer Mettals; and that even ſome who before had the repute of being wiſe, have entertained ſuch favourable thoughts of it. In this reſpect I am apt enough to believe, having known many Learned Mens hopes and expectations ſwelled up to a high pitch by promiſing experiments or fine-ſpun ſpeculations, for which they were beholding to the writings of ſome eminent Alchymiſts. But ſuppoſing this to be an extravagant Notion, and an abuſe of Chymiſtry; yet the Art it ſelf is not therefore to be exploded, It being acknowledged by all Ingenuous unprejudiced Perſons that an excellent uſe may be made thereof, either as it diſcovers to us the Nature of moſt Bodies expoſed to its *Analyſis*: and in that by its means many Noble Productions may be made, which encreaſe our Knowledg of Nature and our power over her; ſo that at this day nothing is in more eſteem with the greateſt Philoſophers then Chymiſtry. But I ſhall wave this vſe of it, as not pertinent to

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our present discourse; and proceed to another, which is the preparing of various Subjects in order to the rendring them Noble Medicines. For in many Bodies which are of great use in Physick, that Vertue which makes them so, consists in few Parts which by Chymical Art may be separated from the useless though greater Portion, and further refined or exalted; and then they do more freely, much sooner, and in less quantity display their salutary effects. Thus we see that a small quantity of a Vegetable Spirit made by Fermentation or of Chymical Essential Oyles, are a *Compendium* of a great quantity of the Vegetables that afforded them, retaining exactly the genuine Odours and Tasts of their Mother Plants; And a few drops of Spirit of *Harts-horn* are more effectual than some Ounces of the *Horn* any other way prepared. We could instance in a thousand other things which I omit designing brevity. There are also among

Minerals

Minerals, many Subjects which are ennobled with excellent Medicinal Properties; but they are moſt of them Noxious, unprepared: and the uſeful part is lockt up or cloſely united to the bad from which it is not eaſily freed. Now here Chymiſtry aſſiſts us, for by it we are enabled to ſeparate the Pure from the Impure, the Good from the Bad, that which is of uſe from the more copious part, which would either have none or ill effects. I will mention but two Minerals which are acknowledged by all, duly prepared, to afford noble Remedies. They are *Mercury* and *Antimony*. *Mercury* admits of various Preparations, and there is not one of theſe that are commonly known (as for inſtance thoſe in our own *Diſpenſatory*) which faithfully prepared do not anſwer many intentions of a judicious Phyſician which could not be any other way ſatisfied, Such are *Mercurius dulcis*, *Mineral Turbith*, the red and other Precipitates; and that not only in Venereal

nereal diſtempers, for which alone they were formerly in uſe; but alſo in many other Chronical diſeaſes, which are ſometimes cured by theſe, after they have baffled many other promiſing Methods, and Medicines. As for *Antimony* it is ſufficiently known, that ſcarce any Vomits are preſcribed, throughout not only *England*, but *Europe* that are not prepared out of this noble Mineral; which ordered after other Methods is an Excellent and ſafe Purge, working without gripes: and if we proceed after another way we may render *Antimony Diaphoretick*. As in that which is commonly ſo called, and in Mineral *Bezoar* a Medicine highly commended by thoſe who in the vogue of the People have went for great Galeniſts. I might inſtance in *Vitriol*, *Lead*, *Tin*, *Iron*, *Silver*, Many of whoſe preparations have obtained much Credit in the World: Such are *Salt* and *Sugar* of *Steel*, its aſtringent and aperitive *Crocus*, *Diaphoreticum*

Joviale, *Sugar* of *Lead*, *Lunar* Pills Spirit and Oyle of *Vitriol*, *Ens* the *Veneris* of Mr. *Boyle*. To these we may add many Preparations of Vegetables and Animals, as the Volatile Spirit, *Salt*, Oyle and Balsom of *Amber*, Flowers of *Benzoin*, the Cremor or Chrystalls of *Tartar*, its Spirit and Fixt *Salts* Refines of *Jalap*, and *Scammony*, Extracts of *Hellebore*, *Rhubarb*, the fixed Salts of Vegetables, Tincture of *Saffron*, and *Castor*, with many others, which when duly prepared are used very successfully; and therefore it is great pity every Physician cannot be supplied with such of these Preparations as he hath occasion to use: which he that consults the welfare of his Patients dares not do, unless he either prepares them himselfe, for which few have leasure and conveniences, or receive them from persons in whom he can perfectly confide. For Chymical Remedies though as Innocent or any that are made, if prepared by those who are careful, skilfull and honest

honeſt are of more then ordinary vertue and efficacy; Yet if by others of contrary diſpoſitions, Nothing more pernicious: The Conſideration whereof unfolds that Riddle which hath puzled ſo many. Whence it is that ſome ſober and modeſt Phyſicians do ſo highly exalt Chymical Remedies; and at the ſame time others of candid Tempers as loudly decry them: the one pretending that they are uſually attended with good effects: the other confidently pronouncing, that either they have had bad ſucceſs with them, or that they have proved wholly ineffectual. The difference may be eaſily reconciled, the one either prepares himſelf, or ſuperviſes the making of his own Medicines; the other truſt to Apothecaries, and common Chymiſts; whom I ſhall evince in this particular to be as great cheats as are now Extant in the World: and do deſerve more ſevere puniſhment, than thoſe that pick-pockets or rob on the High way; for by theſe abuſes man

only deprived of a ſmall part of his eſtate; by thoſe ſometimes of life, often of Health which is alwayes by their Medicines extreamly hazarded.

In the Third Place, I come therefore to manifeſt that we ought not to truſt the Apothecaries for Chymical Remedies. There are indeed ſome few that are very skilful and curious in this kind, whoſe care and induſtry deſerves encouragement; but theſe are not many, and are ſo obſcured by the far greater number of thoſe that Act otherwiſe, that they are ſcarcely viſible. The remainder (if I may ſo call almoſt the whole company ſuch, without being guilty of a Soloeciſm) are not inſtructed in the very Rudiments of Chymiſtry: many among them never ſaw a Chymical glaſs or furnace, are wholly unacquainted with the very names of the operations; and yet theſe perſons are well provided with all ſorts of Chymical Remedies which they buy of the Mercenary Chymiſts. Whom though otherwiſe

wiſe undiſpoſed to Sophiſticate their Remedies, (to which I think them naturally Marvellous prone) they tempt to adulterate by offering them ſuch low prizes, for which indeed they cannot afford them, if Genuine and Right; and have an handſome ſubſiſtence out of the gain which certainly their Labour and induſtry deſerves: Yet theſe cheap prized Medicines are retailed by the Apothecaries at unreaſonable rates, at leaſt ſix times the value they coſt them. Now what truſt there is to be had in the Venal Chymiſts will appear by the enſuing account, which I proteſt is moſt true and faithful, being free from any other deſigne than that of having ſuch enormous abuſes redreſſed.

Since Chymiſtry came into the requeſt it hath been ſubſervient, not only to Medicine, but alſo to Trades; and hath found employment for many ſearching buſie heads: ſome of which engage therein only, that they may

gratifie an unbounded Curioſity, by obſerving an infinite variety of changes in the Subject they expoſe to the action of Fire, and Solvents, delighting themſelves greatly in the contemplation of the Cauſes of thoſe pretty appearances: Others promiſe to themſelves Golden Mountains, either from the general great work as they ſtyle it, or from ſome particular Lucriferous Experiments. Now they that are intent on any of theſe, make uſe of many Materials which are ordinarily vended by a ſort of men, whoſe ſole imployment it is to prepare them. And we know by ſad experience, that the greateſt part of Mankind are not acted by Principles of Reaſon, Honeſty, or Religion, it being Intereſt which ſwayes moſt; few regarding how it fares with the Publick, ſo that they thrive in their private Concerns. Theſe Operators therefore having ready vent for their Preparations, they contrive the cheapeſt Methods of preparing

them, not regarding how injurious they are to the Sick, and thoſe that diſpenſe their Medicines; or to thoſe curious Perſons who deal in nice Experiments: which differences in the ſame Materials do often exceedingly vary, theſe unworthy Selfiſh People being highly ſatisfied, if the Subſtance, they vend, reſemble the Genuine in all ſenſible properties. Now thoſe that are well acquainted with Chymiſtry, know that moſt of the ordinary Preparations which are the Grounds or Ingredients of others, may be variouſly prepared; and yet all of them approach ſo near unto the true, that the moſt judicious Eye, Noſe, or Palate, cannot diſtinguiſh between them.

As for inſtance, There is no Venal Preparation comes more in uſe than Sublimate made of *Salts* and *Mercury*, whether to make *Mercurius Dulcis*, *Butter* of *Antimony*, in order to Mineral, and Jovial *Bezoardica*, That Precipitate of it, which is abuſively called *Mercurius*

Vitæ, or liquid Emetick Remedies; And yet it is too well known that this is often Sophisticated by ſublimation with *Arſenick*: and certainly we cannot expect, that Remedies wherein this is an Ingredient, can be very innocent. There are ſo many other known Methods of preparing *Sublimate* amiſs; which yet ſhall be no leſs fair to ſight than the beſt, that it is to me a greater wonder we have any good, than that we have ſo much, adulterated by vile Impoſtors and covetous Operators. Some only Re-ſublime common Sublimate twice or thrice, and then vend it for that famed harmleſs Remedy *Mercurius Dulcis*, it becoming almoſt as Inſipid as that; which whether it doth exactly emulate in internal as it doth in ſenſible Properties I leave to Experience to determine. But this is none of the moſt profitable *Succedanea*, Therefore many only diſſolve the *Mercury* in Common *Aqua Fortis*, or other Corroſive Liquors; which abſtracted from the Precipitate

cipitate, that being ſublimed the reſult is ſaid to be *Mercurius Dulcis* and ſold for ſuch, and it may be ſo: but yet ſuch Preparations are (not without Reaſon) liable to ſuſpicion, It not being adviſable to permit proceſſes of this nature to be varied at pleaſure by any Ignorant, Conceited, Covetous Operator; for although the Medicines may poſſibly prove more effectual than when prepared after the common Method, yet I fear they are often ſufficiently noxious. And this perhaps is the occaſion of ſo many miſcarriages in the uſe of the Shop-Chymical Remedies; which prepared after the uſual Method, would have diſplayed ſalutary, rather than ſuch pernicious effects. I am unwilling to diſcover more of theſe fraudulent tricks, leſt I ſhould inform ſome of them, whom a happy ignorance only hath kept from putting them in execution: yet the Sophiſtication of the Cremor, or Cryſtals of *Tartar* (which come ſo frequently in uſe) with

with *Alom*, and the vending common *Copperàs* or *Engliſh Vitriol* for the *Salt* or *Vitriol* of *Steel* are ſuch notorious Cheats that I cannot but mention them. And to paſs over the reſt, Chymical Eſſential Oyls which are ſo often Sophiſticated, that I never met with any Venal which was not ſo abuſed; and my skilful Friends have often complained to me that they never found, any ſincere unmixed Chymical Oyl, in the Shops either of the Druggiſts, Chymiſts, or Apothecaries. I remember that formerly I made many of thoſe which were of daily uſe in Medicine, keeping ſome parcels by me; that comparing them with the Venal Oyls, I might learn whether I was impoſed on. This precaution was thus far uſeful to me, as it inſtructed me that unleſs I would injure my Patient, I ought not to make uſe of any of theſe Oyls; unleſs preſented me by my own Laboratory, or by Friends in whom I could abſolute-

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ly confide: Thoſe which We, and the Apothecaries, or Druggiſts borrow of the Chymiſts enjoying little of the Taſte, and leſs of the Vertues of thoſe Subjects, out of which they are pretended to be Extracted, being uſually mixed with a far greater portion of the Oyls of *Turpentine*, *Spike*, or rotten decay'd *Limons*, of which as I and others have obſerved many of the Chymiſts make great quantities. Which recals into my mind what once happened to me: Having occaſion once to buy a great number of *Limons*, I enquired of the Merchant how he diſpoſed of thoſe that were rotten, and unſound; who Anſwered me, that nothing was loſt, the Chymiſts and Apothecaries buying all that refuſe Traſh which he could not otherwayes vend, to make Oyls and Syrups: which did not a little confirm me in my ſuſpicions of their unworthy Practices. And ſurely ſuch as theſe I have mentioned, will deter thoſe Phyſicians that have any reſpect

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for their Patient's Health and own reputation, from truſting to thoſe Remedies of the Shops, which the Apothecaries have of Mercenary Chymiſts, or Common Operators.

But ſuppoſe theſe Chymical vulgar Medicines are prepared with the greateſt care and honeſty, there are beſides them, many noble Remedies, which do as much exceed them, as they, the common Syrups, or Electuaries; ſuch are thoſe which great Chymiſts call the leſſer *Arcana*, The greater being it ſeems no leſs then their renowned Elixir, the Univerſal Medicine, and the Alkaheſt or great Solvent which they affirm many have actually poſſeſſed. How true this latter aſſertion is makes not for our purpoſe: But as for what concerns the former, I my ſelfe can affirm it. Theſe generous Remedies have been hitherto induſtriouſly concealed by their Poſſeſſors from the Apothecaries and common Chymiſts, knowing that they would make a prepoſterous uſe of them; but

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ſhould Phyſicians put themſelves in a Method that they can have any Chymical Preparation, which ſhall be diſcovered to them, faithfully and skilfully prepared, they would ſoon be divulged: which would be much to the benefit both of the Phyſician and Patient, they being more ſure and ſudden in their Operation than any other whatſoever, and are of much greater extent, one ſingle Remedy often curing many diſeaſes that have any affinity with each other. Such are the Eſſences of Plants made by the union of their Volatile Spirits, Eſſential *Oyles*, and fixed *Salts*, Volatile *Salt*, or Spirit of *Tartar*, Tincture of *Corals*, Eſſences of *Pearles*, and *Crabs Eyes*, *Baſilius Valentius*'s Tincture of *Antimony*, his Mineral *Bezoar*, *Tinctura Lilii*, *Helmont's Elixir Proprietatis*, his *Laudanum*, his *Areph*, the Volatile Spirit of *Vitriol*, the Anodine Sulphur of *Vitriol*, its Eſſential *Oyle* the Tincture of *Gold*: *&c.* All which I have ſeen, and can witneſs

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that they have had extraordinary effects: And there are many such or better in the hands of discreet Persons, who are nothing so reserved and invidious as the generality of Chymists (how deservedly I know not) are taxed to be. For I have heard several of them, persons of great note and honour, profess their readiness to communicate what they know in this kind, to any Society of sober, Industrious Physicians that would oblige themselves to use, as they see occasion in their Practice, such noble Remedies as they will direct them to prepare. Now is it reasonable Physicians should neglect these advantages of improving their faculty, only to gratify an ingrateful, idle, careless generation, by whom they and their Patients are so highly injured that no Persons who have any sense of Honour or Honesty can further trust them, till they give sufficient testimony of their Reformation: which what it is, shall be anon mentioned. Another Remedy may be applyed, and

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which perhaps were moſt adviſable, that is, for Phyſicians to prepare their own Phyſick, whether Chymical or what is commonly called *Galenical*: but of this more hereafter.

Another thing the Phyſicians deſervedly blame in the Apothecaries, is their enhauncing the Prizes of Medicines ſo much above what they might in Reaſon expect; about which the Phyſician doth not ſo much concern himſelf, becauſe it hath a bad influence on him: as on the account of his Patient; though certainly if Apothecaries were more modeſt in the Prizing their Phyſick, the Patient could be more liberal to the Phyſician. Whereas on the contrary the Apothecary holds them at ſuch unreaſonable rates that in moſt courſes of Phyſick, he gains more then his Maſter, how deſervedly let others determine; though in my Opinion were their pay proportionated to their care and honeſty, I doubt they would gain little beſides ſhame and reproaches. But the Apotheçaries Bills muſt be paid

paid without abatement; otherwiſe there ſhall be more clamour than if twenty Phyſicians went unpaid: but with how much regret they are diſcharged, almoſt every Phyſician can witneſs, moſt of them being daily troubled by their Patients with complaints of their Apothecary, which it is not in their power to redreſs. Now ſeveral things contribute to, or are the occaſional Cauſes of this univerſall Grievance: The Number, Pride, or Covetouſneſs of the Apothecaries; and that prizes are not ſet on their Medicines.

For Apothecaries, the Phyſicians procuring it being reduced into a company were at firſt few; and therefore having full employment could afford their Medicines at moderate prizes: but being ſince that time increaſed to a great number, each perſon bringing up two, three or more, That imployment which was before in a few hands became more diſperſed; ſo that a very

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ſmall portion thereof falls to the ſhare of ſome; and indeed very few of them; have more than they can manage.

Now the Sick muſt maintain all theſe, for although there be no occaſion for a Sixth-part; Yet they muſt all live handſomly, as thoſe that account themſelves Phyſicians Fellows: to ſupply which Expenſe they have no other way than to exalt the prizes of their Medicines; and ſtil the leſs they are employ'd the higher they muſt prize them: otherwiſe they could not poſſibly ſubſiſt, unleſs they become Phyſicians and Preſcribe as well as prepare, to which practices they are not only propenſe but are initiated in them, as we ſhall ſee in the ſequel of this Diſcourſe.

Now would it not be much better, if it were with us as in ſome parts of *Germany*? Where the Magiſtrates of many Cities, and I think Territories, agree upon a certain number of Apothecaries, ſo many as they can apprehend are neceſſary, all the reſt being exclu-

ded; and must either seek other seats, or be content for a small Salary to work under those that are allowed. The number of the Apothecaries thus limited, is beneficial to themselves in that they never want imployment; and to the Patient, who for the same reason hath his Physick at cheaper rates. I hope so manifest an advantage will invite us to imitate them which would not only be a great ease to the Patient; but also should be desired by the Apothecaries themselves if they consulted their own Interest. For if the future increase of their number bear any proportion to what is already added therto since they were Constituted a Company, the Physician need not oppose them, they must necessarily fall of themselves; unless they meet with some Extraordinary support which cannot be at Present foreseen nay scarcely imagined: but they are so intent on their private gain that I do them an injury in proposing to them the good of the Publick

lick or of their Company, especially when it will diminish their present profit. Therefore, since here is so little hopes that they will reform themselves, others must take upon them that troublesome and ingratefull task; and next to the Magistrate I know not who are more capable of this than the Physicians: as will be seen when we come to the Remedies which shall be proposed in order to the prevention of this and other inconveniences, of which they are the Causes

Another bad Property the Apothecaries have, is their Insinuating many things to the prejudice of an Honest Physician among their Patients, to whom the Apothecary endears himself by the frequent access he hath to them, and some little pieces of Officiousness, as applying of Blisters Leeches, Plasters, or some such trivial business, which might be as well performed by any Nurse that is used to attend Sick people: so that a Physi-

cian, whose Name and Interest is not very considerable, is in a great measure at their Mercy; which is such, that he may rest assured if he be a stranger to the Patient, or have not so great an Interest in him as the Apothecary, and if this have no immediate dependance on him, that if he be never so little distasted, he will employ all his Skill and Interest to ruine him in the Opinion of his Patient, and Introduce Himselfe or another Physician that shall be more compliant in his stead. Now one thing which touches an Apothecary to the Quick, is Detracting, as they call it, from the goodness of their Medicines (although how speaking truth should be Detraction, I understand not) against which no exception must be made, though the Patients Lives lye at stake; Another cause of their displeasure is, if they are reproved for setting immoderate Prizes on their Medicines: or which amounts to the same thing (I

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mean the leſſning of their Gain.) if the Phyſician preſcribes a few Medicines; and thoſe either commonly known to be cheap, and eſpecially if he gives the Patients Directions to make their own Phyſick, as if it be the Decoction or Infuſion of a Simple or two: or if he cures them by a Regular Diet. For by this means, little Profit coming to the Apothecary, you cannot blame him that he thinks himſelf highly injured, or affronted, and ſeeks to be Revenged on that unworthy Phyſician, who prefers the Good of the Patient before the Benefit of the Apothecary. Whereupon he ſuggeſts to the Patient, that this Phyſician is a Man of mean Parts, of moderate Knowledge, of little Repute; that the Things he preſcribed are very Slight, and altogether unlikely to effect what the Phyſician deſignes; that if he would be adviſed by him, ſome other Phyſician ſhould be conſulted, which yet is not very frequent: for

they do moſt of them redeem Opportunities, of impoſing themſelves on the Patient; who certainly makes a goodly exchange when he parts with a Sober, Judicious Phyſician for a Confident, Daring, Empty, Bragadocio Apothecary.

This Conſideration brings to my remembrance another particular, which is the laſt complaint we ſhall make of Apothecaries; and that is their taking on them the Practice of Phyſick, *Quis Credet hæc?* It will ſeem hardly Credible to Sober, Judicious people that have not obſerved the courſe of the World: and I confeſs it amazes me when I behold a Company of ſuch Ignorant perſons, dare at ſo great an Undertaking. I wonder, Firſt, how they had the Confidence to attempt it; and having made ſo fair an Eſſay, that they did not Clandeſtinely manage thoſe unwarrantable Practices, creep into Corners and Oblige to Secrecie: But to com-

commit all this in the face of the Sun, when Challenged, be ſo far from Excuſing and Retracting that they ſhould publiquely avow, acknowledge, and Glory in their ſhame, is a piece of Inſolence that I could never have imagined a Society of men ſhould ever have been guilty of. That a private man ſhould ſo far degenerate, is no unuſual thing; but this is the firſt Rank of men that ever in *England* did generally revolt from their Maſters, and greateſt Benefactors; and they are indeed ſo rare an example, that they deſerve to be Regiſtred in the black Catalogue, if not of Perfidious, yet at leaſt of Ingrateful Perſons, from whence without ſome general Repentance and Reformation, their names will never be Cancelled.

But amongſt all theſe Prodigies nothing doth more excite my Admiration, than the conſideration tht anay Perſons dare confide in them, for whence can it be imagined they ſhould derive

they do most of them redeem Opportunities, of imposing themselves on the Patient; who certainly makes a goodly exchange when he parts with a Sober, Judicious Physician for a Confident, Daring, Empty, Bragadocio Apothecary.

This Consideration brings to my remembrance another particular, which is the last complaint we shall make of Apothecaries; and that is their taking on them the Practice of Physick, *Quis Credet hæc?* It will seem hardly Credible to Sober, Judicious people that have not observed the course of the World: and I confess it amazes me when I behold a Company of such Ignorant persons, dare at so great an Undertaking. I wonder, First, how they had the Confidence to attempt it; and having made so fair an Essay, that they did not Clandestinely manage those unwarrantable Practices, creep into Corners and Oblige to Secrecie: But to com-

commit all this in the face of the Sun, when Challenged, be ſo far from Excuſing and Retracting that they ſhould publiquely avow, acknowledge, and Glory in their ſhame, is a piece of Inſolence that I could never have imagined a Society of men ſhould ever have been guilty of. That a private man ſhould ſo far degenerate, is no unuſual thing; but this is the firſt Rank of men that ever in *England* did generally revolt from their Maſters, and greateſt Benefactors; and they are indeed ſo rare an example, that they deſerve to be Regiſtred in the black Catalogue, if not of Perfidious, yet at leaſt of Ingrateful Perſons, from whence without ſome general Repentance and Reformation, their names will never be Cancelled.

But amongſt all theſe Prodigies nothing doth more excite my Admiration, than the conſideration tht anay Perſons dare confide in them, for whence can it be imagined they ſhould derive

this Skill, to which they are ſuch high pretenders, That eſpecially the more antient among them, boldly affirm they have many advantages over young unexperienced Phyſicians, and ſtand on even ground with the elder. Did ever thoſe Phyſicians that were a means of conſtituting them a Company, and procuring for them ſuch Priviledges, ſuſpect that in the ſame Century, ſome of their own Profeſſion ſhould be forced to take Pen in Hand and determine the Controverſie, whether They or the Apothecaries are more fit for the Practice of Phyſick? One would think this ſhould be like thoſe common Notions which are ſaid to be Imprinted in the Minds of all men, As that the Whole is more than the Part, &c. ſo methinks every Man that is asked of the Queſtion in hand, who underſtands what Phyſicians, and what Apothecaries commonly are, ſhould as eaſily determin which is fitted for, and which ought to be excluded from

Practice

Practice, as to tell us that One and Two makes three; or that if we add equal parts to equal they are ſtill equal. But leſt we ſhould be thought to Aſſume rather then Prove, or it be Objected that we are Precarious in our aſſertions, we ſhall give this Queſtion a fair debate; and then we ſhall manifeſt the unworthy Artifices that Apothecaries uſe to depretiate and exclude the Phyſicians, to introduce, and ingratiate themſelves.

As for what refers to the firſt, Apothecaries have this to plead for themſelves. 'That it is unreaſonable 'to deny them the liberty of Practi-'cing, who underſtand the Symptoms, 'and Cures of Diſeaſes; if not as well 'as ſome Phyſicians, yet better then ma-'ny, at leaſt than the young and unex-'perienced. They have been preſent at 'the Death, and Recovery of many 'Patients; and therefore have had 'Opportunity to obſerve the courſe of 'the Diſtempers, and procedures of

'Phy-

'Phyſicians: That they have kept ex-
'act Diaries of theſe Tranſactions,
'What Medicines the Phyſician pre-
'ſcribed; eſpecially if they proved
'ſucceſsful: That they want nothing of
'a Doctor but the bare title: That
'they are not deſtitute of this, amongſt
'the people, the moſt competent Judg-
'es; who if they were not ſatisfied
'with their Abilities and Succeſs, ſurely
'they would not ſalute them by that
'Name, which is conferred by the Uni-
'verſities, rather upon thoſe who
'have read Books than cured Diſea-
'ſes.

Not to anſwer to theſe frivolous allegations, that on the account of ſome of theſe pretenſions old Wives, or Nurſes, and others, Farriers and Smiths, may pretend to the Name or Thing they are ſo ambitious of: Nor to tell them which is moſt certainly true, That the knowledge they derive from Doctors Preſcripts is very uncertain, and fallacious: it being abſolutely

lutely impoſſible for the beſt Phyſician to calculate a Medicine that ſhall be proper for all that are, or ſhall be ſubject to any one Diſeaſe; unleſs he were Poſſeſſor of the *Univerſal Remedy*, So great in the variety of Complexions, ſo many are the complications of Diſtempers, and ſo infinite are the variations of Circumſtances: all which the Judicious Phyſician attends to, and which few Apothecaries are capable of Comprehending. The former being commonly men of more ſmart, piercing, natural Parts; and their Brains farther refined, purged from Prejudices, and well furniſhed with excellent, clear, and diſtinct Conceptions of things, for which they are beholding to an excellent Education: ſo that notwithſtanding I have heard ſeveral of the Apothecaries confidently, (not to ſay impudently) affirm they were ſo throughly acquainted with ſuch mens Practice, naming ſome eminent Phyſicians, that if they knew

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the Caſe, they would lay a Wager they did exactly Predict before they took Pen in Hand what they would Preſcribe; when to my knowledge there is not ſo much difference between a ſhallow River and the profoundeſt Sea, as between theſe empty, light Fellows and thoſe Grave admired Phyſicians, whoſe depths ſuch light Shittle-Cocks, Cork and Feathers, are ſo unlike to ſound, that it is not without much difficulty that they are made to penetrate the very Superficies. In ſhort, to compare them with ſober, judicious Phyſicians, is as prepoſterous, as to parallel the faint glimmering of an expiring Candle with the beauty and luſter of the Sun in its Noon-day Glory. But we ſhall more clearly and diſtinctly perceive the vaſt difference between them, by comparing them both with the Idea of Medicine; and ſee which is the more likely to have it imprinted in their Minds, and diſplay it in their Actions.

The

The deſign of the Phyſician, ought to be the preſervation of Health and cure of Diſeaſes. The Preſervation of Health is beſt effected by a regular Diet, and the due uſe of thoſe things which are called Non-naturals; to which may be added ſome ſmall matter of Phyſick when there is a ſlight propenſion to a diſeaſe rather than a Diſeaſe formed. Now in this Part certainly the Phyſician is more underſtanding than the Apothecary, being bred a Philoſopher; and muſt therefore probably (or he is much to blame) underſtand more of the Nature and properties of Meats and Drinks, of Air, Sleeping and Waking, Exerciſes, and Paſſions of the Mind, than the Apothecary who never addicted himſelf to theſe enquiries. Then as for the Cure of Diſeaſes, it ſeems highly probable that they who are beſt acquainted with the Cauſes and Symptomes of Diſeaſes, will apply Medicines more properly than others that cannot ſo well diſtinguiſh

guiſh, although poſſeſſed of the ſame Remedies. But we will wave this, although it would be very proper for our preſent purpoſe; and examine which are beſt furniſhed with Methods and Medicines in order to the Cure of Diſeaſes.

Diſeaſes are removed, either by Method, Specificks, *Arcana*, chiefly Chymical; or by a Practice mixed of Two or more of theſe. That Cure by Method which doth not interfere with the other by ſpecificks, is when by Vertue of Medicines that have a Senſible Operation, ſuch are Vomits, Purges, Salivating, Sweating, Diuretick, veſicating, Cordial Anodyne and Narcotick Remedies, (with the helps of Phlebotomy &c.) uſed in ſuch a Method as the Phyſician apprehends moſt proper, the Diſeaſes are removed. And that moſt Diſtempers might be Radically or Perfectly Cured by theſe judiciouſly preſcribed without either ſpecificks or Chymical *Arcana*, I am ſo far from doubting

Doubting that I could name ſome excellent Phyſicians, who have eminently ſignalized themſelves only by Method. But then theſe (and indeed whoſoever inſiſts in this way muſt be ſuch) were Men of moſt quick apprehenſions Solid Judgements, knew when, what, how much, and in what order to preſcribe, a little miſtake hazarding the Patients Life in acute Diſtempers, either in over, or under doing; and how fit a Hair-brained, Careleſs or Ignorant Apothecarie is for this Practice, is eaſily diſcerned.

As for Specificks by which we mean ſuch Simples as being appropriated to a Diſeaſe, cure without any ſenſible Operation; probably by changing the ill texture of the Morbous matter into another more innocent and leſs incongruous with thoſe parts which before were extreamly diſaffected thereby. Now the great queſtion is, how Phyſicians come by the knowledge of theſe admirable Properties.

Surely

Surely they have it not by natural Inſtinct, much leſs can any pretend to Divine inſpiration. I am not ignorant that ſome talk of a *Medicina Adepta*, but the boldeſt and moſt talkative Apothecary I ever yet met with, had not the ſlighteſt Pretenſions to it; and no wonder for till they leave off their fraudulent unworthy Practices, of all men I know in the world, they have the leaſt Reaſon to expect revelations in this kind, ſuppoſing there were ſuch. Well then, ſince there are no other means beſides, Phyſicians muſt derive this knowledge from Communication, either of living or dead Phyſicians; or from their own Experience and Obſervations, and indeed I believe they are not a little beholding to the writings of thoſe that preceded them: wherein yet this Knowledge is ſo ſcattered, that great Labour, Induſtry and Sagacity muſt be imployed before any Phyſician can arrive to an ability of Curing moſt Diſtempers by means of Specificks. Now that the

Apo-

Apothecaries are like to be Poſſeſſors of this Treaſure, will appear very improbable, If we conſider that they do not trouble themſelves to ſearch any other Records than they themſelves have made of Phyſicians Preſcripts; and beſides they are great Enemies of Cures by Specificks, becauſe that notwithſtanding they perſonate the Doctors: yet their gain comes in by the Trade of an Apothecary, which this way of Cure doth much impair. And therefore by their good-will they would neither allow of it in others, nor practice it themſelves if they were able; from which they are ſo remote, that al the Phyſicians in *England*, can hardly beat it into moſt of their heads, that any thing ſhould effect a Cure without Evacuating ſenſibly the Material Cauſe of the Diſeaſe: and therefore they deal chiefly in Purges, Vomits, &c. And how judiciouſly they manage theſe inſtruments, we ſhall hereafter make inquirie.

A third course whereby Diseases are said to be cured, are Chymical *Arcana*: Such were the *Mercurius Diaphoreticus* of *Helmont* and *Paracelsus*, the *Ignis* or *Sulphur Veneris*, the highly exalted Tincture of *Gold*, the Mineral *Laudanum* of *Paracelsus*, and other great Medicines which those renowned Chymists, *B. Valentinus*, *R. Lully*, *R. Bacon*, *Paracelsus*, *Helmont* and Others were said to have had in their Possession; and to have used with incredible Success. These noble Remedies curing without any Evacuation (besides ordinary Diseases) those that had then the Repute of being incurable: such were the *Gout*, *Dropsie*, *Stone*, *Leprosie*, and other formidable Distempers. It is not my intention at present to spend time in inquiring after the truth of this Tradition, whether these Persons were actually possessed of these Remedies, and whether by their means they effected such great Cures: Or whether such Medicines may be procured. I shall only insist on this that

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if any of them can be obtained by Labour, Skill, and Industry, the Physicians are much more like to be possessed of them than Apothecaries, trifling Chymists, or mean Operators. Many of them having been long conversant with Chymical Operations, and having not spared for any expence of Money, Time, or Trouble, are now so throughly acquainted with the Principles of that Art; and have rendred Nature so familiar, that they design few things which they do not effect: and I can say from my own Knowledge that the Productions of their Furnaces, have been as considerable as of any sort of Men whatsoever that do publickly appear in the World. So that if there be any thing in Chymistry useful and noble, what should hinder their bidding fair for the possession thereof? Besides, there are many Antient, and Younger Physicians who dayly ingage in these Enquiries; and the whole Colledge of Physicians is so concerned for the pro-

moting this ufefull part or appennage of Medicine, that they do intend publickly to promote it by aſſociated endeavours. And notwithſtanding what hath been ſaid to the contrary, I am Confident there is not a Society of men in *Europe* more conſiderable; not only for that knowledge which we owe to Books, for their inſight into Philoſophy, Skill in Anatomy, and all Natural Hiſtory which is allowed by moſt: but even for an intimate acquaintance with Chymiſtry, which though ſome have denyed them, yet how unjuſtly the World will be ſoon (if it be not already) convinced.

Now it remains that we diſcourſe of the Fourth and laſt way of Practice, which we ſaid was compoſed of thoſe already mentioned, and indeed this is the moſt frequent; for, although I know there are ſome few, who confine themſelves to that which I call ſtrict Method, others to Cure by Specificks, a Third ſort who only uſe Chymical

Medicines

Medicines, which they are pleaſed to dignifie with the glorious Title of *Arcana* (although I fear they are far from being ſo) and perhaps there may be ſome Perſons in the World, who have thoſe that are really ſuch; yet I have obſerved that the generality of ſober judicious Phyſicians, compoſe out of all theſe a Practice which partakes ſomewhat of every one: yet ſo, that Medicines which have a ſenſible Operation, Specificks and Chymical Remedies, have all a ſubſerviency to Method, that is, they obſerve a certain order in the uſe of all theſe, which is ſo advantageous, that inverted or tranſpoſed, they have not the ſame effect. Thus perhaps firſt they premiſe ſome general evacuations, whereby the Body being freed from impurities, the Stomach after ſtrengthned with digeſtives, the Vital Spirits invigorated by Cordials or a Regular Diet. Specificks then eaſily perfect the Cure, which perhaps would be

compleat neither without them, nor with them only, without the mentioned helps. Now he that hath but half an Eye muſt neceſſarily diſcern, that much of judgment, much of contrivance is requiſite in theſe Caſes; and indeed ſo much, that it is well known many (and I hope that it may be affirmed of moſt) Phyſicians, make a Hiſtory of the Patients condition, or Caſe: and then after due Conſideration of all circumſtances, determine to proceed after a certain Method from which they do not recede without great occaſion given them, as the intervening of ſome accidents, which Humane, Wiſdom, and Care, could neither foreſee, nor prevent. Now how Apothecaries, or indeed any others that have not a ſolid Judgment, quick Apprehenſion, and fixed indefatigable Mind, can ſuſtain ſo much labour be capacitated for ſo great undertakings I cannot imagine. And they that know them did never ſuſpect

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they would give themſelves ſo much trouble to obtain what they can purchaſe at a cheaper rate. For they deſign not ſo much the doing good, as that the People ſhould entertain an opinion that they do it, which is no hard matter to arrive at, being in this like *Machiavel's* Politician (though in other things ſilly enough) who is to make a profeſſion of Vertue and Piety; but not to be really ſo, for many things will be ſwallowed that are propoſed under the pretence of Vertue and Piety, by unwary, well-meaning People, who are not apt to ſuſpect others becauſe free from Deſigns themſelves: whereas a ſtrict profeſſion of Religion and Vertue will hinder the Politician from doing many things which might prove highly advantageous to him. The Parallel is eaſie and obvious. Beſides, as it is eaſie to obtain an Opinion of Vertue or Piety, but to be really and truly Vertuous, requires much Sweat and great diligence; ſo it

is with Learning, nothing being more eaſie then to impoſe on the incautious, credulous Vulgar, who believes he knows moſt, who makes the largeſt profeſſion. And at this the Apothecaries are excellent; good ſucceſs ſo rarely anticipating their promiſes, that I ſcarcely ever heard ſuch a thing happen'd; but how devoid they are of ſolid Knowledge, how free from Care, and empty of Skill, or whatſoever is requiſite for the making good their pretences, is ſo well known to them that dive into the depth of their ſilly intrigues: and they are ſo numerous, that it is needleſs to repeat what is imprinted on ſo many memories.

But we ſhall now proceed to enumerate and deſcant on the particulars, wherein the Phyſician ſeems to have ſome advantages over the Apothecaries, and indeed all other whom Nature and a good Education have not fitted for ſo great an employment.

1. It

1. It ſeems very probable that Diſeaſes will be better cured by them that are acquainted with the Frame and Fabrick of Man in his ſound Conſtitution, with the Nature and Properties of the Humors and Ferments in the Body, that underſtand (which they chiefly do by Analogy from what they have obſerved without Man) how theſe are depraved and perverted, What was the Occaſion, or Inſtrument. Whereby certainly they may neerly conjecture what is moſt fit to oppoſe the cauſe of theſe Irregularities, and to remove their Effects. This is no new Notion, it having been the perſwaſion of former, and later Ages, That the Phyſician is to begin where the Philoſopher ends; And that the Phyſicians have made great advantages of Experiments and Obſervations, is moſt evident from their own confeſſion: but chiefly manifeſted in many of thoſe Noble productions of their Brains, which will perpetu-

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are their Names, and oblige all Mankind that ſhall ſucceed them. Of how great uſe was that admirable Invention of *Harvie*'s concerning the Blood's Circulation? and, What great advantages may we derive from the Inventions of *Pecquet*, *Gliſſon*, *Ent*, *Wharton*, *Bartholine*, *Willis*, *Needham*, *Lower*, and other excellent Anatomiſts? Some have gained to themſelves immortal Renown by their voluminous, yet judicious Hiſtories of Plants, Animals, and Minerals; and indeed Natural Hiſtory, and Philoſophy have been ſcarcely cultivated by any beſides Phyſicians: who were ſo conſiderable that the deſervedly admired *Des-Cartes*, not long before his death, was deeply engaged in the ſtudy of Anatomy, Chymiſtry, and other appendices of Medicine; deſigning all his Philoſophical toyl, only for the good and benefit of Man; intending to imploy his later time in the inveſtigation of the Nature of Diſeaſes, and

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their Cures. Neither did a high Birth, and Quality, an Excellent Education, a plentiful Eſtate, and great Reputation, diſpoſe that Noble Experimental Philoſopher Mr. *Boyle* to think himſelf above the Profeſſion of Phyſick; which cannot be queſtioned, after he hath given ſo publique a teſtimony, as the accepting a degree therein, freely proffered him by one of the moſt Famous Univerſities in *Europe*: whoſe expectations he hath not deceived, having ever ſince applied himſelf to improve that noble Faculty, with ſuch ſucceſs, that notwithſtanding what ſome few in their miſtaken Zeal urge to the contrary, it is well known that moſt acknowledge themſelves highly obliged to him for what he hath already publiſhed; and wait not without ſome Impatience for what he hath promiſed in the ſame kind. And how great advantages a Phyſician skilled in Philoſophy hath over others, He hath ſo clearly, and copiouſly evinced

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in many parts of these excellent Discourses concerning the usefulness of Experimental Philosophy, (to which I refer the Reader) that he hath saved me a Labour of saying more on that Subject, which would be only a Recapitulation of what he hath there at large delivered, and which will be better understood in his own words; and probably make a deeper impression than any thing I can add. So that now nothing remains for me to do, but to draw this Corollary, That till Apothecaries become better Philosophers, its very probable that there will be better Physicians: but to proceed.

2. It is not unlikely that they who in their cures attend to the Age, Sex, strength of the Patient, time of the Year, their Constitution or Complexion, Antipathies or Aversions, Diseases preceding in them or their Parents, and the present Complication of Diseases (for they are not frequently

quently ſolitary) that they, I ſay, who attend to thoſe Circumſtances, ſhould be more ſucceſsful in their Cures than thoſe that have little regard of them; for whatſoever the Apothecaries think, the Phyſicians are of the mind that all theſe are material, if not neceſſary to the Cure of Diſeaſes. And although the Apothecary not hearing the Phyſician enquire after all thoſe particulars, himſelf alſo neglects them; Yet nevertheleſs the Phyſician conſiders them, having ſuch a habit that he doth it intuitively rather than diſcurſively, eſpecially if he were formerly with the Patient: but the Apothecary looks on this as work of Supererogation, and thinks 'tis only to pleaſe and humour the Sick; and perſwade them of their care. But that this ſurmiſe is grounded rather on Ignorance than Sagacity we ſhall now manifeſt. To avoid Prolixity I ſhall inſtance only in one particular, and that is the Complication of Diſeaſes; about which the Phyſi-

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cian is (not without juſt cauſe) marvellouſly ſolicitous. And indeed this is ſo nice a Speculation, that it ſometimes almoſt puzzles the moſt perſpicacious Phyſicians; and is far out of the *Apothecarie's* Ken; who yet preſumes he can ſee into a Milſtone as far as another man, and ſo he may: but in this caſe it is with the Phyſician and Apothecary, as 'tis ſaid to be with two perſons diverſly qualified looking into a Magical Glaſs; where the one ſees a great variety of objects, and the other nothing but a tranſparent Glaſs, and will not believe but what the other ſees is by the help of Imagination's Spectacles; which objection, how true ſoever it may be in that caſe, is not in this. Or, (to make a compariſon leſs liable to be cenſured) It is with Apothecaries and Phyſicians as with two Perſons that contemplate the *Galaxy*, or milky way; the one with his naked Eye, the other by the aſſiſtance of a Teleſcope; That

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to the former ſeems only a confuſed white cloud, which to him who veiws it through his Tube appears to be a great company of Stars: which he perceives little leſs diſtinctly, than he doth by his Unarmed Eye, thoſe that are moſt conſpicuous among that innumerable Company, wherewith the Heavens aremoſt glorioufly beſpangled. But that I may render this more manifeſt, I will deſcend to particulars, and ſhew firſt that there is frequently if not uſually a Complication of Diſtempers in the Diſeaſed. Secondly, That the Apothecaries are not often ſenſible thereof.

It hath been judicioufly obſerved by *Piſo*, *Bontius* and others that in *Braſile*, &c. where their way of living is moſt ſimple, the Temper of their Air conſtant, their exerciſe much, and their hereditary Diſtempers few; That their Diſeaſes alſo are few, and ſhort, for the moſt part ſimple (being ſcarcely ever complicated) ſeldom dangerous, the

Criſis

Crisis certain and visible, so that they rarely dye, except of Accident, or old age: wheras on the contrary, in these *Northern Regions* our Diseases are many and various, Crisis uncertain, and oft-times scarcely sensible; and which I chiefly aim at, Diseases are variously complicated. And indeed how can it possibly be otherwise when we are generally very irregular in our Diet; so that I know not whether we are more injured by the great quantities, or ill Qualities of the food we live on: When we sometimes too much indulge our selves in sleep, at other times allow our selves too little, and that at unseasonable times, when we lead for the most part sedentary lives, exercising either too little, or immoderately; not to say how intemperate some are in their Passions, and insatiate in their Lusts: besides the Air in which we breath is as uncertain as the Winds that blow which suddenly changes from heat to

cold

cold, moiſture to dryneſs; and on the contrary, cannot but leave ill Impreſſions behind them, to which we may add Hereditary Diſtempers. For what is more frequent than for weakly diſeaſed Parents to be further tormented by ſeeing their Children labour under the ſame Infirmities; which are either rivitted into the Principles of their Conſtitution, or ſucked in with their milk: from which diſpoſitions they are hardly, if ever freed. Now any one of all theſe is ſufficient to change the nature of a Diſeaſe, which in their abſence would have appeared in a much different form: So that there being in moſt of thoſe who are ſurprized with any diſtemper eſpecially *Acute* a *previous*, ill *Diatheſis*, or Conſtitution of the Blood, a depraved ferment in the Stomach, and theſe very various, we muſt apply our ſelves after different methods to cure Diſeaſes, which ſpring from different cauſes. Thus for inſtance in *Feavers*,

Agues, and many other Distempers; it is not sufficient to remove their occasional Cause, and to allay the inordinate commotion of the Blood; but he that will approve himself a true Physician must (in a great measure at least) free the Patient from that ill habit of Body, which exasperated the former Distemper, and disposes still to the same, or worse. For when the Blood is depauperated or the spirits oppressed by more numerous Saline, or Earthy parts, on every light occasion the whole Body is disordered; and indeed the great skill of a Physician is seen in the cure of Chronical Diseases, which is too far out of an Apothecaries reach: that although I have made strict enquiry, I solemnly profess, I never heard of any one cured by them. If then they are unable to cure Chronical Diseases, which are those that chiefly reign in *England*; and if they are absolutely unfit to deal with any acute Distempers where there

there is any Complication, Why are they allowed to practice Phyſick? With which if they muſt be converſant, let them addict themſelves to the cutting of Corns, and drawing of Teeth, which do reſemble the cure of Diſeaſes; and that may perhaps in ſome meaſure gratifie their petulant Fancy at a cheaper rate by ſpoiling a part, than hazarding the whole, which is now their daily practice.

3. It is no inconſiderable part of a Phyſician's Office, to know when nothing is to be done, but the whole matter committed to Nature, the Phyſician ſuperviſing, and taking care to correct all Nature's aberrations; and if there be occaſion, to give her ſome little aſſiſtance. For Diſeaſes ſeize on many in whom Nature is ſo ſtrong that after ſome conflicts the Aggreſſor is expelled without any aſſiſtance from Phyſick, according to the Aphoriſm of *Hippocrates*: *Naturæ ſunt morborum Medicatrices.* Whereas ſhould a Phy-

ſician in theſe caſes adminiſter any active Medicines, or make uſe of other pretended helps (ſuppoſe Phlebotomy) unleſs by his great Sagacity, or the obviouſneſs of the Diſtempers cauſe, he applyes a Remedy very ſutable (for which there is yet little occaſion) We cannot imagine otherwiſe, than that Nature being weakened by evacuations, or diverted from her uſual Methods by Medicines; which if not appropriated, will rather diſorder or debilitate than bring relief, in the interim the diſtempers will proceed by inſenſible, degrees and at length may become ſo powerful, that Nature with the help of the moſt generous Remedies cannot prevail: where if She had not been unſeaſonably weakened or diverted She would have obtained an eaſy Victory.

As for Example there is a well-known Diſeaſe, wherewith Children are as frequently afflicted, as by *Agues* or the *Rickets*; which ſoone deprives the

the poore Infants of their colour; makes them loſe their appetite; they ſleep little, and that unquietly; they will be exceeding Thirſty, Froward or Peeviſh, and ſeem to have greivous ſick or fainting fits: and after they have long laboured under this diſtemper, they have uſually great ſwellings or hardneſs of the Belly, and are ſo emaciated that they ſeem not much unlike to little Skeletons; and yet notwithſtanding all theſe threatning Symptoms I have ſeldome, if ever, known Children miſcarry who were forbidden the uſe of Phyſick till freed from moſt of them (for they vaniſh of themſelves) and then gently purged for a few dayes ſucceſſively, they not only recovered their former healthbut have often given me occaſion to diſpute with my ſelf, whether they were not rather better than worſe for the diſtemper thusmanaged. Whereas on the contrary others that have been diſordered and weakened by evacuations, Cordials, or

ſuges, appointed by the Apothecaries or other unskilfull practicioners, (who are very ready to preſcribe and Impoſe Phyſick on theſe occaſions) although to appearance they are freed from their troubleſome companion; yet withall ſoon after, many exchange this life for a better: and thoſe that ſurvive, are uſually weakly, more ſubject to Rickets, Convulſions, and other Diſtempers, than thoſe in whom the Diſeaſe was permitted quietly to take its courſe without interruption. The ſame hath alſo been obſerved in elder Perſons labouring under Quartain *Agues*. Neither is it without a great deal of trouble that Phyſicians obſerve ſo many miſcary of acute ſimple Feavers, who committing themſelves to the care of Apothecaries, and rather unskilful pretenders to Medicine, often receive diſpatches out of this World, by Food, or Phyſick prepoſterouſly adminiſtered, rather than from their Diſtemper; which will appear evident to them

them who conſider that a Feaver is uſually Natures Inſtrument, or an Ebullition of the Blood, cauſed by the Vital Principle, in order to the expelling of ſome ſubſtance mixt with the Blood, or other Humors in the Body: whoſe preſence perverts Natures regular actions, and thereupon is oppoſed by thoſe active parts, through whoſe mediation She performes her operations. Now in moſt of thoſe conflicts Nature would be victorious, ſubdue or expel her inteſtine Enemy; if She were recruited ſparingly with the liquid part of Her ordinary and daily ſupply: and be not diverted by groſs Food, whoſe digeſtion while the Spirits attend the Morbous matter, exceeding the remainder in quantity or energy, may gain great advantages, either by vitiating the Organs, or by reducing the Humors to their own Nature by a depraved Ferment; and the Stomach wanting Spirits copious enough to aſſiſt it in digeſting

the Food, dismisses it crude: or being it self disaffected, imparts thereto some noxious qualities, which are again communicated to the Blood, whose impurities it thereby encreases, extreamly hazarding, and sometimes over-powring the Principle of Life. The same happens by Medicines unsutable to the Distemper, or unseasonably exhibited; as if in the height of a Feaver one should advise to hot Medicines, whereby more Fuel is added to the Fire, and the Disease rendered more formidable and difficult of cure than ever: or if in the declination of the same Distemper, when the Patient should be supported by Cordials, and relieved by Opiates, whereby the Crisis, or separation of the peccant matter is most certainly and easily affected; if instead of these refrigerating Medicines, *Juleps*, *Clysters*, or other Coolers which weaken the Blood, depress the Spirits, and disable Nature for her intended

tended ſeparation, whereby the Diſtemper runs into a Diuturnity, and if Life chance to be ſecured for the preſent, howſoever the Patient continues weak: and without great regularity, or exact obſervation of Diet, Exerciſe, and the other Non-Naturals, will become ſubiect to ſome Chronical Diſtempers, whether *Conſumption*, *Scorbute*, *Dropſie*, *Jaundice*, *Scyrrhus*, *Tumors*, or *Ulcers*, which frequently ſucceed acute diſeaſes, ill managed, and are ſeldome perfectly removed; at leaſt not by the Apothecaries, who were the occaſion of theſe, and are daily of many other Miſcarriages, when they are conſulted about Perſons who would recover without the uſe of any, or with the help of little Phyſick. But as it is above their skill to know what Perſons are thus affected, ſo it is contrary to their Intereſt to manage them aright; and therefore they neither can, nor will do it.

it. That they cannot, the faithful Character or Deſcription we have given of them will render ſufficiently probable; That they will not, may be eaſily believed, if we conſider that this way of proceeding would diminiſh their Profit, which they do by no means approve, but will rather charitably obtrude ſtore of Phyſick on all their Patients: and that ſometimes ſo much to their prejudice, that they had better hire them at a dearer rate to be leſs officious.

4. Oftentimes perſons ſeem to labour under ſeveral Diſeaſes, when as really the whole Tragedy is acted by the ſame peccant matter, which is either tranſlated from one part to another; and affecting them after different manners, the Symptoms are various and their Denominations different: or from differences in Age, Sex, previous habit of body, Complexion or Conſtitution, Strength of the Patient, Seaſon

Seaſon of the year, and other circumſtances. Matter which hath the ſame Nature and Properties, may diverſly affect the Perſons thus diſcriminated; alſo according to Quantity and Degrees in the ſame Qualities it may diverſly affect the body: and thereby occaſion different Symptoms, which to the Unwary or Unskilful ſeem diſtinct Diſeaſes, when as it is but one and the ſame matter variouſly diſplaying it ſelf; and which may be removed or otherwiſe diſpoſed of by one and the ſame Method or Medicine.

Thus for inſtance a great number of Diſeaſes are cauſed by the redundance of Acidities, which acid noxious juyce being mortified, all thoſe troubleſome effects of its preſence ceaſe. Many Diſeaſes there are which proceed from the obſtruction of ſome part, ſuch are *Apoplexy's*, *Lethargy's*, *Carus*, *Catalepſia*, *Gutta Serena*, *Palſy's*, &c.

&c. Now thoſe Methods and Medicines which will cure the moſt obſtinate and dangerous of theſe, will ſeldom fail to remove the reſt. The ſame happens in *Convulſions*, *Epilepſy*, *Madneſs*, *Hyſterical and Hypochondriacal Paſſions*, *Vertiginous Affections*, *and Melancholy*, &c. We alſo daily obſerve that many violent Fluxes, wherein the blood or other humours have the ſame cauſe and cure, all which proceed moſtly from ſharpneſs, thinneſs, or heat of the blood, are removed by Medicines anſwering the Indications of cooling, dulcifying or incraſſating. Some of the Diſeaſes thus cured, are immoderate Fluxes in Women, ſpitting and vomiting of blood, Periodical, or other copious Evacuations thereof at the Noſe, *Hæmorrhoids*, with the Urine, or by Stool in the Flux, commonly called *Hepaticas*, and *Dyſenteries*; to which we may add ſeveral ſorts of *Diarrhea's*, *fluor albus*, *incontinentia Urinæ*

Urinæ, much Spitting, Weeping, *Coryza*, and Rheumes, of divers kinds. Further, moſt ſimple, continued and intermittent *Feavours* have very nearly the ſame way of Cure; although the Body ſeems diverſly affected by them: an evident Argument that their cauſes are little different. We might inſtance in Colical, and Iliack pains, and manyother torments in the Stomach and Bowels, which ſeem to have their riſe from the ſame Cauſes, and have almoſt the ſame Cure; Nay to proceed ſtill higher, What Analogy doth there ſeem to be between the *Palſie* and the *Colick*? yet this often degenerates into that which alſo many other Diſeaſes do; whereof I could give a large account: but ſhall refer it to a more convenient Opportunity. We might proceed to ſhew how great an affinity, there is between many outward affections in their Cauſes and Cures: But becauſe the care of

ſuch

ſuch Diſeaſes is denied by ſome to belong to Phyſicians; and becauſe the Apothecaries do ſcarcely ever intermeddle with the Chyrurgeons imployment (which yet it is much leſs intricate then the Phyſicians) I ſhall paſs over this Conſideration.

Thus we have given a ſuperficial account of thoſe opportunities judicious Phyſicians have to diſcriminate themſelves from ignorant pretenders, by their diſcerning with great Celerity, and Sagacity, how to act where all theſe are allwayes grievouſly perpleked, and often perfectly confounded; as is manifeſt in their wayes of proceeding, which are uſually ſo ridiculous and Irrational that they would give intelligent Phyſicians a full and pleaſant Divertiſement, if they could Indulge themſelves therein: which they can by no means do, where their Errours and Miſcarriages are ſo far from Innocent, that they do often ex-

exceedingly hazard, and ſometimes occaſion the Miſery, or Deſtruction of the unhappy credulous Patient. Which ſad accidents diſpoſe thoſe generous Phyſicians, they neglected, rather to Pitty and Compaſſion than to diſport themſelves, or look with Malicious Smiles on misfortunes, which they in ſome meaſure deſerved, for being guilty of ſo egregious a piece of folly, as committing themſelves to Ignorant, and Unskilful Practicioners, altogether unfit for ſo great a truſt. And indeed it will excite Admiration in any judicious Perſon to obſerve what a Wild-Gooſe-Chaſe they go in moſt of the Caſes we lately mentioned: ſometimes applying a Remedy they have learned is proper for the Head-ach, then another for the Tooth, Stomach, or Heart-ach, Gripes, Flux, heats in the Head, and burning in the habit of the Body, *Vertigo Aſthma*, and other ſemblances

ces of Diſtempers which one and the ſame matter will often occaſion. Now the Sagacious Phyſician ſoon deteſts this Cheat, and immediately by a ſtroke or two at the root, intercepts the depraved Nouriſhment; ſo that all the other ill effects ceaſe with the removal of their cauſe: whereas ſhould he only attend to every particular ſymptome as the leſs diſcerning do, there would be no end, either of Phyſick or the Diſeaſe, which, 'tis very probable will receive a great aggravation by ſo many improper Remedies. For Phyſick is, or ought to be active; and if not appropriated to the diſtemper, it muſt neceſſarily work an effect contrary to that for which it was deſigned, ſo that if it do not abate of the Diſeaſe, 'tis more than likely to exaſperate it, if it do not ſtrengthen Nature actually, or conſequentially; I mean by removing Impediments, it will certainly weaken Her.

V. It

V. It ſeems moſt evident,

That many Diſeaſes may be Cured by a convenient Diet.

AND if this be ſo great a truth as Phyſitians have hitherto generally eſteemed it to be, then he that is acquainted with the Nature of Aliments, and the Proceſs of Nutrition, will probably cure Diſeaſes with greater certainty and leſs trouble to the Patient, than him that is utterly ignorant of both theſe: And who is more like to be a Poſſeſſor of this knowledge, than a judicious learned Phyſitian? For,

1. He underſtands the Nature of Aliments, whether Animal or Vegetable; he knows that ſuch among them as are moſt temperate, and have no ſenſible Operation are more agreeable to the body, and nouriſh more than others which abound with active parts, whoſe Purging Vomi-

tive, Sweating, Diuretick, or other Qualities, render them unfit for Nutrition. As alſo, that moſt, if not all things that are uſed for food, although they be not active in ſo high a degree as others which come commonly in uſe for Medicine, that yet they often cauſe great alterations in the body, according to the quantity, quality, right, or unſutable application thereof; and find that the Cauſe and Cure of many, if not moſt Diſeaſes, have their dependance on a good and regular, or a bad inordinate Diet. But this will be made more evident by deſcending to particulars. I think nothing can be more plain and evident, than that Onions, Shalutes, Horſe-radiſh, Capers, Olives, Broom-buds, Pepper, Cinnamon, Nutmegs, Salt, Sugar, Butter, Vinegar, Wine, and Oyl, are active alterative ſubſtances; and yet they are often taken alone, or variouſly compounded to make ſavory picquant Sauces which are ſuppoſed to promote

mote digeſtion by rendring the food more grateful, and by ſtrengthning the ferment of the ſtomach. But beſides theſe there are many Vegetables which come frequently in uſe among all people, and in ſome Countres with Bread, Cheeſe, and Milk are almoſt their only food, ſuch are Melons, Pompions, Cucumbers, as alſo Turneps, Carrots, Parſnips, Skirrets, Radiſhes, Peaſe, Beans, Artichocks, and other Thiſtles, Aſparagus, Hop-tops, Cabbages, Coleworts, Cauleflowers, Comfry, Lettuce, Purſlain, Parſly, Sage, Leeks, *&c.* (not to mention various kinds of fruits) Theſe are either boyled, or eaten crude; alone, or variouſly compounded according to pleaſure, being rendred more grateful, or as is thought wholeſome, by the addition of Butter, Vineger, Pepper, or other of the mentioned active ſubſtances. I ſhall not inſiſt on the great difference that there is in ſubſtance and qualities, between Fleſh

and Fiſh, the variety of both being unimaginable ; eſpecially if we conſider the various wayes of preparing them for food, and the additaments that are uſed to render them more agreeable to the Palate : Concerning which Phyſitians have wrote intire Volumns. Now the body partaking of the nature of the Aliments (which I ſuppoſe no one will deny, or if they ſhould, I could demonſtrate it by unqueſtionable experiments and obſervations) They having ſuch various qualities, and there being ſo great a variety in the complexions and conſtitutions of men, it will neceſſarily follow, that ſome of thoſe Aliments may be contrary to a good ſound conſtitution of body; & if a perſon indulge himſelf much in the uſe of them, his health will by degrees be impaired, and a bad texture or diſpoſition of blood ſuperinduced, which would have been prevented : and if recent, eaſily removed by ſutable nouriſhment.

ment, eſpecially if this regular good Diet be long continued.

Now the Phyſitian being better than any other perſon acquainted with the properties of moſt things that are commonly eaten, and with the temper of his Patient, can teach him what to eat, and which to avoid; what will prove beneficial to him, which are hurtful. Beſides, he gives him ſome general Rules in reference to Diet, yet not ſo ſtrict and ſevere, but that they may be eaſily without any trouble or inconvenience obſerved. Theſe Rules may reſpect men either in a Healthful, Neutral, or Diſeaſed ſtate.

1. For a man in Health, the Phyſitian preſcribes him not any ſet time or hours whercin he ſhould take his repaſts, only that he ſhould not eat another plentiful meal, till what he eat before be well digeſted, and paſſed out of his ſtomach. Then for the Quality of his food, that it be ſuch as

is moſt agreeable to his conſtitution and imployment; a groſs food being moſt ſutable to thoſe that are of a ſtrong robuſt, a more fine and delicate to ſuch as have a more ſpare and weakly complexion: he allows them alſo ſuch food as being long accuſtomed to, they find agreeable to them, there being Idioſyncracies or peculiarities in ſome men, whereby ſome food agrees well with them, which would be noxious to others ſeemingly of the ſame conſtitution. As for Quantity, that they ſhould eat only ſo much as abates, not gluts their appetite; and after which they find themſelves rather more than leſs lightſome than they were before eating: That its better to eat little and often, than much and at once; that as near as they can, they keep to an equality for ſubſtance, not quantity, making allowances for meats that have little nouriſhment, as ſubſtracting from what are very nutritive, as Swines fleſh, *&c.* And

if

if they live temperately, to exceed once or twice in a month in eating and drinking their ordinary ſtint, which is found to promote perſpiration the great preſerver of health, and enables the ſtomach to bear any accidental overcharge, there being few perſons that can at all times command their Appetites; and ſuch a ſurpluſage is dangerous to thoſe that have long obſerved exactly a regular Diet, not varying the quantity of their food. Then laſtly for Order, he adviſes that they ſhould not eat immediately after any great exerciſe of body or mind, and that they avoid all thoſe things which hinder the concoction or diſtribution of the nouriſhment, and uſe whatſoever promotes it. Some ſuch general rules as theſe obſerved (abating hereditary and contagious Diſeaſes which yet are in a great meaſure prevented by an orderly Diet, and are leſs dangerous when we lapſe into them) will keep them

in perfect health: For then the food will be readily converted into good chyle, which conveyed into the veins, the blood not being overcharged with quantity, and the food being before well prepared and opened by the ferment of the ſtomach, becomes upon reiterated circulations, a moſt noble generous liquor, and in its paſſage through the brain a pure unmixed ſpirit will be ſublimed or ſeperated from it, free from preternatural acidities which cauſe many Diſeaſes.

This ſubtle and ſincere Liquor or Spirit ſupplies the Nerves and Muſcles with what is neceſſary for Animal Actions, the Lungs, Stomach, Spleen, and other Viſcera, And the parts deſtined for the Propagation of the Species with ſo much as is neceſſary to keep them in a due Tone and enable them to perform all theſe actions for which they were inſtituted. The reſt of the blood viſiting

ting the moſt extream parts of the body, and others retired from ſight, where *percolated* through *Parenchymous fibrous* or bony ſubſtances, it leaves with each part what is Congruous to it: And ſo long as this courſe is continued without interruption, health alſo will be uninterrupted.

Whereas on the contrary high Compounded nouriſhment, whoſe quantity and ſubſtance is often varied, eſpecially if it be more then the Stomach can well digeſt, muſt by a *Mechanical* neceſſity cauſe Diſeaſes. For if the quantity be greater then the ferment of the Stomach can diſſolve the Chyle will enter the Blood Crude, and being more then that is uſed to aſſimilate at once, and not well opened by a previous digeſtion, it by inſenſible degrees depraves the beſt conſtitution, for then the blood ſupplies the Brain, Nerves, Viſcera, and Muſculous parts with unſutable Spirits, and nouriſhment which affecting them after an unuſual

unuſual manner, pain or ſomewhat worſe, is in time the reſult of this bad or irregular Diet. Then for the quality of the food if it abound too much with Oyly and Spirituous parts, it puts the blood into that great commotion or Ebullition we ſtile a Fever, if with cold Crude juyces as Melons, Cucumbers or Cherries, it ſometimes extinguiſhes the Native-heat, and if the ſick eſcape they are uſually ſtigmatized by blotches or eruptions all over their bodies or in ſome particular parts, whereat the Morbous matter is excluded. Laſtly, if Salt be predominant in the nouriſhment it cauſes various Maladies, eſpecially of the *Genus nervoſum* often occaſions ſtrange diſorders in the whole maſs of blood and ſometimes Corrodes the External parts which it deforms and and tortures in Ulcers, Fiſtula's, Cancers and other painful, loathſome and formidable Diſeaſes. All which might have been prevented, and if timely

care

care had been taken, cured by a ſutable and orderly Diet. For an ill Craſis or Conſtitution of the blood doth not always, preſently, diſplay it ſelf in ſuch bad Syptoms as to deſerve the denomination of a diſeaſe, this by Phyſitians is called a Neutral-ſtate which may be firſt Checkt, and then redreſſed by Diet. For although if we will examine things ſtrictly there is no middle between ſickneſs and health, yet becauſe it is ſo hard to find a Standard for either of them; therefore Phyſitians have agreed on this third, as an expedient the better to expreſs their thoughts: ſo that we apprehend a man is in perfect health who is free from pain or any Indiſpoſition, performs in his own and the Phyſitians opinion all Animal and Natural Actions as well as if he were in perfect health, we account a Neutral ſtate to be a ſlight propenſion to a diſeaſe, when the ferment of the Stomach begins to be perverted, the blood ſomewhat de-

depraved, and yet no very ill Symptom appears, No function of the body is much hindered or interrupted at leaſt not very ſenſibly; As when by too ſtrict and ſevere a diet the body begins to be Emaciated, the Nerves diſaffected, or when by drinking to freely the body is inclining to a fever, dropſie or Conſumption, to the ſame or other diſeaſes, by eating frequently too much, or ſuch food as ſuits not with the Stomachical Ferment being to it hard of Digeſtion, or meat endowed with any other ill quality: by frequent exceſſes crudities being accumulated which if they increaſe will diſplay pernicious effects; But if timely diſcerned may be conquered without the help of Phyſick. As to avoid Repetition I ſhall manifeſt under the next head.

But ſuppoſe that a Diſeaſe is ſenſibly formed: Let us examine then what Diet can contribute to the Cure, Moderation, or Palliation of the Diſtemper. To

To avoid prolixity, I ſhall mention only ſome general wayes of Cure by Diet, on which any underſtanding perſon may expatiate in his mind.

It's ſo well known that many Indiſpoſitions are cured by Faſting or a ſpare Diet, that I need only mention it. Others are cured by a Diet axact for the quantity of food which hath laudible qualities, for what is taken being no more then can be well overcome and diſſolved by the ſtomach, this conveyed into the blood ſoon renders it more ſpirituous, whereby what is crude is either digeſted, or carryed off in perſpiration; ſo that Nature being duely fed with a conſtant ſupply of good ſpirits, the bad texture of the blood is ſoon exchanged for one more innocent. Thus Conſumptions and other Chronical Diſtempers have been frequently cured. Many diſeaſes are overcome by a Diet contrary to the peccant matter; as

Hecticks

Hecticks by a Milk Diet; Fevers by Ptiſans; ſome Conſumptions by Snails, and other glutinous ſubſtances; Hot Diſeaſes by moiſt cold, Cold and moiſt by a hot and drying Diet. Some Diſeaſes are alwayes moderated and often cured by ſubſtracting from the liquid part of the nouriſhment, as Catarrhs; others by allowing it more plentifully, as in that dreadful Diſeaſe called by Phyſitians *Cholera Morbus*, wherein if the Patient take great quantities of Poſſet-drink, or thin weak Chicken-broath, thoſe affrightful ſymptoms of Vomiting and Looſeneſs ſoon ceaſe, the liquor dilating that corroſive ſaline matter, which pricking the coats of the ſtomach, and inteſtines, cauſed thoſe violent workings upwards and downwards. And this is a remedy ſo certain that I never yet obſerved it to fail, and others who have had longer time and more opportunities to make Obſervations than my ſelf, and particularly he whom I take

to

to be the firſt inventor of this eaſily parable effectual Remedy, do unanimouſly affirme, *That it hath ſcarcely ever fruſtrated their Expectations*; and yet we know that many miſcarry of this diſtemper, even where the pretended generous Remedies of the Chymiſts, and beſt methods of thoſe whom they ſtyle *Galeniſts* have been imployed.

But to proceed: Another way of curing Diſeaſes by Diet, and the laſt I ſhall mention, is with ſome ſorts of food, which by a hidden or ſpecifical property cure Diſeaſes. Our inſtances ſhall be only in the Vegetable Kingdom, whoſe Simples are numerous, and they differ from each other in many ſenſible properties, as Taſt, Smell, Figure, Colour, and their internal qualities are far more numerous; and between them alſo there are great differences and contrarieties. Some are of a hot, others cooling, moiſt, or dry Nature; ſome are ſaline,

others

others oyly, &c. And moſt of them have ſeveral of theſe properties in ſome degree, all which may be ſuted to the removal of whatſoever is contrary to, and leſs powerful than themſelves: now Diſeaſes, if ſimple, are only an exceſs in one quality or other, which an appropriate nutritive ſimple judicioufly applyed, if the quantity be ſufficient, and eſpecially if often reiterated, doth uſually redreſs. To make this more cleer, I will give one or two obvious examples of the ſame diſorders cauſed and cured by different Vegetables. It's well known, that Parſly eaten in a ſmall quantity is apt to exaſperate diſeaſes of the Eye, and there are other Plants which prove more healing than that is hurtful, witneſs Eybright: And it hath been obſerved that even Turneps render the ſight more acute, cure moderate Inflammations, and are commended by Phyſitians to be of frequent uſe while perſons are under cure for the

Gutta

Gutta Serena, *Recent Cataracts*, & other diſeaſes incident to that tender part. But this will appear moſt evidently in the *Sea Scorbute* which is contracted uſually by a bad Diet, ſalt meats, and naſtineſs; ſometimes extremity of heat or cold combining to exaſperate it. 'Tis hardly to be imagined how deplorable a condition thoſe perſons that are highly afflicted with this diſtemper ſeem to be in, being to appearance abſolutely incurable by the moſt generous Medicines, helped with the advice of the greateſt Phyſitians; yet ſuch ſlight things as the juice of Limons, Freſh meat, but eſpecially plenty of green Herbs preſently diſpell all theſe horrid threatning Symptomes, and that ſo ſuddenly that they ſeem to be cured by a Charm, thoſe who were not able to ſtir a limb, were exerciſed with many grievous Maladies, in a week recovering perfectly their former health; which perhaps long courſes of Phyſick would

never have reſtored to them in a much longer ſpace. And we find, that not only the *Sea Scorbute*, but that alſo wch. is on land contracted by eating ſalt meats, is more certainly and ſuddenly cured by a convenient diet, then by Phyſick. And an Eminent Phyſitian in this city aſſured me, that moſt ill habits of body occaſioned by feeding much on ſalt meats, are ſoon cured by eating daily for a few weeks a good Quantity of almoſt any edible green herbs. And another no leſs conſiderable, who hath great dealing with Seamen, proteſted ſeriouſly to me, that he cures all thoſe among them that are Scorbutically affected, only with young peaſe, ordred all manner of ways; eaten crude, boiled with, or without their ſhells, whoſe juice is to be plentifully mix'd with their broth; that this Remedy never failed him, nor the Seamen of cure: and this ſometimes after the diſeaſe had eluded many very promiſing Methods and Medicines.

We

We have hitherto treated of Meats, which Phyſitians, as I have ſhewed, can render mediçinal. I now proceed to mention, Drinks, which are no leſs, nay more capable of being improved, by being impregnated with the virtues of Simples Animal, Vegetable, and Mineral, or their Preparations, and not become conſiderably diſtaſtful to the Palate, or nauſeous to the Stomach. There are myriads of ſuch preſcripts in the books of Authors. I ſhall only mention that method which is of general uſe in order to the extricating the virtues of Simples or Compoſitions, which is this: The ingredients are to be hung in fermenting liquors, whether Wine, Ale, Beer, or Cider, *&c.* and that their medicating properties are extracted by this method, dayly experience doth atteſt, many who either will not, or cannot uſe other Phyſick, being recovered by ingredients thus prepared. For the fermenting liquors be-

ing in a brisk motion, and abounding with active parts chiefly ſpirituous, inſinuate themſelves into the moſt private receſſes of the Simples or other materials, give motion enough to their active parts to looſen them from the more groſs, and drive them into the liquor, and theſe freed, aſſociate with their deliverers to unlooſe the reſt. And that the *Craſis*, or chief parts and properties of Simples are by this method obtained, is evidenced by the effects and taſts of the drinks exactly emulating thoſe of the materials which were thus fermented. As for what refers to Cures effected by theſe means, I dare boldly affirm, *That there is ſcarcely any Chronical Diſeaſe, that is cured by the Shop Medicines, which may not be cured with more certainty, eaſe, and pleaſure, by Drinks thus ordered, joyned with a regular Diet.*

Thus have we ſhewed of how great advantage a convenient Diet is in order

der to the cure of Diſeaſes. I have ſpoken more largly to this particular, not that I deſign to learn Phyſicians any new notion, they having many of them better digeſted thoughts on this ſubject, then theſe which are the Product of two hours Meditation; But I mention theſe things partly on the account of the Vulgar, that they may have other apprehenſions of underſtanding Phyſicians, then they have hitherto entertained; as alſo that I might learn the Apothecaries to know themſelves, and their own inſufficiency; or if they will not acknowledge it, to expoſe them ſo nakedly to others, that, unleſs they will ſhut their eyes, they cannot but behold unpardonable weakneſs and great defects in moſt of thoſe confident blind Bayards, the Quacking Apothecaries; who before I have diſmiſſed them, will appear lean and ſcrannel, though now they ſeem plump and juycy. I ſhall therefore

proceed to poliſh the mirror: wherein if impartial Spectators do view and compare them with Learned honeſt Phyſicians, they will find without any deluſive Catoptrical trick, no leſs difference between them, then there is betwixt admired beauty, and hated deformity.

Therefore laſtly, A Phyſitian will appear to be Superior to other pretenders, if we reflect on thoſe many advantages he hath, whereof they are wholly deſtitute. He is accounted to to enjoy a great Piviledge, who hath been Educated by an Eminent Practicioner of Phyſick, who hath been free in his communications to him; and this is by the Vulgar accounted ſufficient to conſtitute a perſon, who hath been in ſuch circumſtances an able Phyſitian: And the beſt plea the Apothecaries have, is, that they have collected the Practice of ſome worthy Phyſitian for moſt Diſeaſes; now there is no Phyſitian but injoys the benefit

benefit of the writings of many hundred excellent perſons, that were eminent in the ſame faculty before him: Theſe have faithfully communicated their experiments and obſervations of the cauſes and ſymptoms of diſeaſes, and of their cures; what methods and Medicines they found moſt beneficial, what things are injurious and to be avoided: And there are others who have left us their writings concerning the virtues of moſt Simple and Compounded Medicines, in what caſes they have been found effectual; and many (which is perhaps the moſt profitable way of writing) have left us intire books of Medical Obſervations, to which Phyſitians, who have a Scheme of them in their memories have recourſe in difficult caſes, and by Analogy know how to proceed, as do the Lawyers, on other occaſions.

Now let us ſuppoſe with ſome that Phyſick is altogether Empyrical, being rather a Maſs of Experiments then a

Science perfectly formed & eſtabliſhed on ſound unqueſtionable verities (wch is the moſt plauſible plea Apothecaries or other pretenders can uſe) yet ſtill it muſt needs follow, that he ought to be eſteemed moſt able and ſufficient, who is furniſhed with moſt and beſt experiments, either from his own obſervation, or by reading of books which afford him the experiments of all the reſt of the world, and can beſt conclude and argue from the Analogy, Correſpondence, and Harmony, they have one to another. So that a ſtudied Phyſitian muſt, in all conſideration of reaſon, have far the advantage of any other.

Indeed it hath been objected by ſome that the diſeaſes of one country & age are ſo vaſtly different from thoſe of others, that what is profitable to thoſe thar live in one age, or to the inhabitants of one Country is not ſo to another. Which is not only a great miſtake as I have elſe where demonſtrated, but

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of bad conſequence, leading us to the neglect of the writings of many Excellent Perſons, from which we do dayly derive great aſſiſtance: For although I will not deny but that there may be ſome uncertainty, and the Analogy may not be altogether ſo exact, as we could deſire; yet it is no otherwiſe then the variation of the Needle, touched by the Load-ſtone; which although it doth not always directly point to the Poles, but in ſome places conſiderably varies, ſo that the moſt skilful Mariners cannot certainly, though they can neetly determine where, and in what degree of Longitude they are; yet it is ſuch a help that they cannot without great hazard ingage in long and dangerous voyages without it; and by it's direction, if no other ill accidents intervene, they uſually arrive at the deſired ports, though very remote from the place whence they ſet forth. So a Phyſitian by the help of his own and others obſer-

ſervations, for which he makes allowance, or abatements, as he ſees occaſion, Pilots moſt of his Patients almoſt, as ſurely as if his courſe were chalked out for him or directed by a line; So that patients, who venture themſelves in dangerous caſes with Phyſitians and Apothecaries, do it only with this difference, the one (as it were) Imbarks for a long Voyage in a Leaking Skiff, with an Ignorant Pilot without Sayls, Compaſs, and other due Proviſions, the other in a ſtanch fair Ship, well Riggid, provided with a skilful Pilot, good Compaſſes, and all other requiſites for Navigation: And which is like to make the moſt ſhort and fortunate Voyage, which is moſt ſecure from ſtorms, foundring, or holding uncertain courſes, is, I ſuppoſe eaſily determined? 'Tis true we read of ſome, that in a little Boat ſet out from *New-England*, and made a quick and ſafe Voyage to *Ireland*; and of others, who no better accommodated

modated Sailed from the *Bermudas* to *Virginia*; yet theſe Accidents are not frequent, and if they are regiſtered, it is under the notion of extarordinary events. And beſides none of theſe were ſo mad as to have neglected any helps they could have procured, it not being choice but neceſſity, that put them on ſuch ſtrange adventures, and to run ſo great a riſque to eſcape dangers, which they could not otherways avoid. But this is not the caſe of any that are ſick, there being choice of means, ſo that for a man adviſedly to hazard that, which is ſo precious and valuable as life, by committing himſelf to the care of ignorant unskilful Empericks, when he might in a great meaſure ſecure it by conſulting a ſober Learned Phyſitian, is to put an affront upon his reaſon, or to diſeſteem his life; but certainly there are not many, who after ſo fair a warning given them, will expoſe themſelves to dangers, which they may ſo eaſily avoid. I will therefore now proceed,

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in compliance with my promiſe, to give an account of ſome of thoſe numberleſs unworthy practiſes, the Apothecaries are manifeſtly guilty of, in Order to the diſgracing Phyſitians, and inſinuating or confirming a good opinion of themſelves.

They will often commend to perſons as preventive Phyſick, a gentle Purge, and at night a little Doſe of Diaſcordium, Mithridate, Treacle or ſomewhat elſe, in ſo ſmall a quantity that it ſhall not diſorder them; ſo that their Patient, for ſo they call them, finding that he hath received no prejudice by this Phyſick, and the purge poſſibly working kindly, (of which they among the Phyſitians preſcriptions may have enough) apprehends that he may be ſomewhat better, and ſo begins to have ſome confidence in the Apothecary; who doth not looſe any hold he hath got. For ſoon after the Patient perhaps hath occaſion for a Phyſitian, himſelf or ſome of his family being ill: If it be for any diſtemper they were

were formerly ſubject to, for which the Apothecary hath any of the Doctors Preſcriptions; he then ſuggeſts that there is no neceſſity he ſhould give himſelf the charge of ſending for a Phyſitian who would preſcribe the ſame things he ordered formerly, which preſcriptions he hath by him, and is ready to make up for them; although now, as I ſhewed before, the caſe may be ſo altered by complication or otherwiſe, which the Phyſitian would preſently have diſcovered, that this, which did once give Relief, may be either highly prejudicial or ineffectual. Thus they do ordinarily obtrude themſelves and their Medicines on the ſick eſpecially if the diſeaſe be frequent and obvious, as the Meaſles, Small-pox, Fever, Scurvey; and ſome among them ſoar ſo high as the Venereal Lues: For they have ſeen perſons often under courſes for theſe diſeaſes, and, having the preſcripts ſtill on the File, they know no reaſon why they ſhould not cure them, as well

well as the Doctor: They therefore tell them that it is a great expence to gratifie the Phyſitian, and pay the Apothecaries Bill, which in theſe courſes they aſſure them, will amount to much (as indeed they do by their ordering) that they are throughly acquainted with the Phyſitians Method: which as I have already ſhewed, is a groſs miſtake and high preſumption. But I cannot diſmiſs, without a further Check this frivolous pretence of the Apothecary, that becauſe he hath moſt of thoſe Medicines which the Phyſitian otdinarily imploys, therefore he ought to be allowed in the practice of Phyſick, it being a way of Argumentation not much unlike that, ſome ſilly fellow might make, who ſeeing a Lutiniſt play well to admiration, is there upon deſirous to pleaſe himſelf, and gratifie the Company with the like Muſick: But upon tryal although he have the ſame Inſtrument, as many Fingers as the Muſitian, & the Notes prickt down before him; yet can produce no other harmony,

harmony, then what is the reſult of diſcord: And would he not render himſelf yet more ridiculous, ſhould he perſwade himſelf his Muſick is not inferiour to that of the Excellent Artiſt, and becomes highly diſpleaſed with the Company, becauſe they do not beſtow on him the ſame applauſe they gave to the perſon, he vainly endeavours to imitate? There being requiſite to the beſt performance of Muſick, not only a hand & inſtruments, but alſo an exact knowledge of the Rules of that Art, and frequent Exerciſe. So that for any to promiſe themſelves the Art or habit without the uſe of the right means, which conduce to it's attainment, is the higheſt folly, and hath as little foundation in reaſon as an Attempt (according to our Common homely Proverb) to make a Velvet Purſe of a Sowes ear, or any other unſuitable matter.

But to leave this, and proceed in the account of our Quacking Apothecaries,

caries, who by ſome ſuch Artifices as we mentioned having ſcrued themſelves into families, that they take eſpecial care of them according to their mean ability, I am willing to admit, their intereſt, obliging them ſo to do, and you may be ſure, they ply them with ſtore of Phyſick; wch how fatal it proves to thoſe that have the Meaſles or Small-pox, is too well known. But if by good fortune the Patient eſcape, then they ſufficiently Celebrate themſelves in all Companies, rendring the caſe ſomewhat more dangerous & difficult, then really it was: whereby they make way for their Introduction into other families. But if (as is moſt likely) by their ill management, the Patients lapſe into a dangerous condition, ſo ſoon as they are ſenſible thereof, they immediately adviſe them to ſend for a Doctor, who is oftentimes ſo Civil as not to animadvert on what hath been done amiſs. If they recover, then he endeavours to perſwade them, that the

Phyſitian

Phyſician proceeded in the very ſame courſe he intended to have followed; and that it was only for their ſatisfaction he was deſirous to have the Phyſician adviſed with. But if the perſon dies before the Phyſician was ſent for, he cryes out with a wide mouth on malignity, which is for the moſt part no other then the effect of his ill management; yet being dead he ſparingly ſuggeſts that he fears the Phyſician took not a right courſe; and wiſhes that he himſelf had proceeded after his own method, which for any thing he knew might have recovered him: which ſuggeſtion taking with the humour of the people, who are very prone to accuſe the laſt medicines of any ſtrange Symptomes which are often Fore-runners of death, the treacherous Apothecary makes a great advantage of his own miſcarriages. Which double dealing having been detected by ſome Phyſicians, hath ſo highly diſpleaſed them that they have

often been ready to take up a firm resolution never to take care of any Patients who had before been managed by Apothecaries; and had actually performed it, did they not apprehend it would be a breach of Christian charity to punish people so severely for imprudent actions extorted from them by an others over bearing perswasions and confidence. These are some of those many artifices the Apothecaries employ, I speak not at randome what they may do, but what they have often actually done, many of which have fallen under my owne observation, others I have received from the Patients or Physicians themselves, on whom they have thus imposed. Now I appeal to the whole Nation, whether such great mischiefs and inconveniences as these I have already enumerated, ought not to be redressed; and that we may not think they are *beyond* the *reach* of any *remedy*, I shall now proceed to the mention

of

of thoſe propoſals the Phyſicians make to the Apothecaries: with which if they comply, they will ſave themſelves from ruine, which otherwiſe is at their heels. I have alſo thought fit to let the world know that we can ſubſiſt without them, and that probably much better then with them; I mean more to our own and the Patients ſatisfaction or ſecurity, as in it's due place ſhall be made manifeſt.

Notwithſtanding that Phyſicians and their Patients have been ſo highly injured by Apothecaries, that they might with the greateſt juſtice u terly reject them; and although the nature of their crimes ſeem to be ſuch, that they cannot ſafely keep any further correſpondence with them: yet this is ſo far from being the deſign of the Phyſicians, that if any expedient can be excogitated (and ſuch they apprehend they have found out) which may prove a fair ground for an accommodation, they are willing to

forgive and forget all former miſcarriages, and give them ſuch encouragement as reaſonable and honeſt perſons can deſire. Now all that the Phyſicians expect of them, is that they keep in their own Station, and endeavour to anſwer the end of their inſtitution. That is, Firſt they ſhall give the Phyſicians ſufficient ſecurity and aſſurance, that they will careſully and faithfully prepare their medicines; And ſecondly, that this ſhall be their ſole imployment, they no more intruding themſelves into the Phyſicians, which is the practice of Phyſick. If theſe be not reaſonable requeſts, let the Apothecaries themſelves propoſe ſuch as are, which the Phyſicians are ready to receive. Now that the Phyſicians can be ſatisfied with nothing leſs, if they have regard, either to their own credit and ſubſiſtence, or the welfare of the Patient, is eaſily evinced by a recapitulation of what was ſaid before. For if it be true which I think was demonſtrated

monſtrated, That many Apothecaries are not well acquainted with the *Materia medica*, and liable to be impoſed on by Herb-women, Druggiſts, and others; If they truſt to thoſe for Medicines, that prepare them unfaithfully as 'tis manifeſt they do; If they themſelves uſe bad drugs in their compoſitions, and vent medicines which have loſt moſt if not all their Medicinal vertue; Or if they are fraudulent in their compoſitions, leaving out frequently the chief Ingredients; If they ſubſtitute, add, and ſubtract at pleaſure; Are negligent, ſlovenly, and ſuperficial in their compoſitions, ſubject to miſtakes, either from their own or Apprentices ignorance of the Latine tongue; and beſides utterly unacquainted with Chymiſtry, a moſt material if not neceſſary part of Pharmacy; and inſtead of thoſe noble Remedies, imploy ſuch as they have from unfaithful perſons, who ordinarily adulterate and ſophiſticate

them. If all these may be affirmed (as they may most certainly be) of most Apothecaries, would not Physitians expose themselves and their Profession to the scorn of the world, and might not their Patients deservedly load them with reproaches, should they still make use of their Medicines? And further, if the Apothecaries be absolutely unfit for the practice of Physick, why are they allowed in it? And that they are, was proved from the nature of Diseases, and those several wayes whereby they admit of cure. Where we shewed, that the Apothecaries are Masters neither of the cure by Method, Specificks, *Arcana*, or any other compounded of these; That they understand not Physiology, and are not capable of attending to all those circumstances, which ought to be duely considered by a true Physician; That they understand not when Nature is to be left, to manage things after her own conduct: but on the contrary,

that

that they diſturbe her orderly motions, and diſtract her in moſt regular Operations; That they are not acquainted with cure of Diſeaſes, or preſervation of health by Diet; That they ordinarily miſtake ſimple Diſeaſes for complicated, and theſe for ſuch as are ſimple; That they are not furniſhed with thoſe helps which are of great uſe to the Phyſician, ſuch are the obſervations of the Ancients concerning the riſe, ſymptoms, progreſs and cure of Diſeaſes; and therefore deſerve not the denomination of Phyſicians, nor can without extream prejudice to the publick, be permitted to follow the practice of Phyſick till they are better qualified for it. I hope then after ſuch a *Manifeſto* of grievances, the Phyſicians may either endeavour their reformation, or deſert them; and entertain ſuch as will be more faithful to themſelves, and to their Patients. But they are very unwilling, though highly provoked, to

be an occaſion of the ruin of ſo many as will upon their deſerting them, be expoſed to miſerable exigencies; they will not therefore promote their downfal, till they deſerve it by rejecting verbally or implicitly the ſucceeding modeſt propoſals. It will therefore be expected:

That they do faithfully and carefully prepare all the Medicines they ſend out of their Shops, not truſting to whole-ſale either Apothecaries or other Medicine-mongers; That all the Drugs they uſe ſhall be viewed and approved of by one or more Phyſicians before they enter Compoſitions, as alſo the Drugs that are of dayly uſe; That once in three months a ſolemn Scrutiny be made by Phyſicians, deputed for that purpoſe, of all their Drugs and Compoſitions: who ſhall be impowred immediately to cauſe to be deſtroyed all ſuch as are found unfit for uſe. We alſo require, That they either themſelves pre-

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pare their Chymical remedies, or give the Phyſicians ſuch aſſurances, that they are faithfully and skilfully made as ſhall ſatisfie them; And that care be taken for the future, that no Apothecary entertain any for an Apprentice that is not competently skilled in Latin tongue; and that they be firſt examined and approved by ſuch Apothecaries as the Phyſicians ſhall depute. Further, Phyſicians obſerving the great inconveniencies which have enſued on Apothecaries having acceſs to the Patients, which is not allowed of in many Countries, do alſo think it unreaſonable that Apothecaries here ſhould take that liberty, which for reaſons mentioned is thought fit ſhould be denyed them; eſpecially having found upon due deliberation, that there is no need of them out of their Shops, where they are to look to the Compoſition of their Medicines: which in their abſence often ſuffer through ignorance of their young

young Apprentices, , whatſoever is commonly performed by them among Patients, being otherwayes eaſily effected. Further, That they contract their number, or at leaſt take care for the future, that it be not increaſed. And laſtly, that ſuch prizes be ſet on Medicines by Phyſicians as they ſhall think fit, who will take care that the Apothecaries have reaſonable gain; That theſe be Printed, as in the *Amſterdam* and other *Pharmacopœia's*, ſo no perſon can be cheated.

The Subſtance of what I have here delivered, is comprized in the laſt propoſition mentioned, and inſiſted on by the Judicious Writer of that rational diſcourſe concerning the ſtate of Phyſick, in theſe words, or to this effect.

That Phyſitians ſend bills to be made up by Apothecaries, as now they are; provided only that the Time and Manner of uſing them, be not ſet down nor the name of the Patient, That it be not

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ſent by the Patient, but by their own ſervants; That it be returned to the Phyſitians again with the Phyſick it ſelf, to be filed up by them or entred into a book with the Patients name and the time: the Phyſick ſo made and provided by the Phyſitians order to be fetcht at their own houſes as it is now at the Apothecaries ſhops or from thence ſent home by their own ſervants to the Patient. And becauſe we cannot ſafely truſt to Apothecaries for Chymical Remedies, they uſually buying them of common Chymiſts or Operators, It is deſired that the Colledge would erect a publick Laboratory, where all Chymical Medicines fit to be uſed, ſhall be well and faithfully made upon the Faith and Authority of the Colledge; and that they ſhall expreſsly appoint thoſe, whoſe Phyſick they ſhall think fit to buy, to provide all their Chymical Preparations from thence; nor to permit the uſe of any other Chymical Preparations to any of their number, except he him-

ſelf

ſelf make and prepare them, or have them from ſuch Apothecaries as the Colledge being ſatisfied with their abilities and honeſty ſhall approve of. And laſtly, That the Colledge of Phyſicians (who herein will be ſoon imitated by others) Enact, That none of their number ſend bills to, or buy Phyſick of, any Apothecary who takes on him the practice of Phyſick, till they are fully ſatisfied he is ſenſible of the injury done to them, and ceaſe to do the like for the future.

Now how ſevere and unjuſt ſoever theſe Limitations may ſeem to the Apothecaries, yet in reality this is but a fair and moderate courſe between them and Phyſicians; for it hinders not the Apothecaries making and ſelling of Phyſick to any that ſhall pleaſe to buy of them: which thing only belongs to their Trade. To viſit the Patient, feel his Pulſe, and conſider his Urine, diſcourſe of the ſtate of the Diſeaſe, and preſcribe proper

Remedies

Remedies for it, is the buſineſs and care of the Phyſician: So that by this method the Intereſt of both will be preſerved, and all cauſes of jealouſie between the Phyſicians and them will for ever ceaſe. The Phyſicians practice and profeſſion will be ſo abſolutely and intirely ſecured to himſelf, that the Apothecary cannot invade it; for he will never ſee a Phyſicians bill (from which they alwayes take direction) nor the Patient himſelf, and ſo be utterly ignorant of that caſe for which the Phyſick was prepared and uſed; nor will he hear the Phyſicians reaſon and diſcourſe of the due times and manner of Adminiſtring it, or explain the nature and cauſe of the diſtemper, nor have occaſions of officious intervening between the Phyſician and Patient, nor diſpence the Phyſick with praiſe of his own great care and pains in preparing it as he is wont to do, all this the Phyſician obtains by only concealing

ing his bills (the writing of a bill being as it were the Myſtery of his trade) in which therefore he doth nothing, but what is held reaſonable among all men.

Beſides, This will inſenſibly leſſen that exorbitant number of Apothecaries, which makes the trade ſcarce a competent ſubſiſtence. For as things are now, while the Maſter or their Servants, are imployed by the Phyſitian to viſit his Patients, and carry Phyſick about, they will be under a neceſſity of taking ſeveral Apprentices; elſe they cannot perform ſuch attendances abroad, and the buſineſs of their ſhop too: and this hath made ſo vaſt an increaſe of the trade within few years, as has rendred it but a mean way of livelihood to a great many, and very dangerous to the ſick. Now as their number will by little and little grow leſs, ſo the trade will become better; and they who are of it, both for skill and eſtate much more

conſiderable

conſiderable: and, which is of much greater conſequence, Phyſick will be better prepared, for the Apothecaries will be more in their ſhops, and not leave things to raw, negligent Servants, as is now often done; they not being ſent about by Phyſitians to their Patients, or with Phyſick, nor engaged in any Quacking practice of their own, will have more leiſure to attend making good Medicines, which is their proper buſineſs.

This in ſhort, is the Summary of what we expect from them; and if it be not granted us, nothing remains, but that Phyſitians take Pharmacy into their own hands, ſuperviſe the making of their own Medicines, and diſpenſe them themſelves. And we have reaſon to apprehend that Phyſitians will be put on a neceſſity of acting thus, it being highly improbable, that the generality of Apothecaries ſhould be reduced to a ſenſe and practice of their duty, having been ſo long

long accuſtomed to ſuch bad courſes. For Cuſtom, we know, is a ſecond nature, and where bad, they are not eaſily ſubdued by thoſe that heartily deſire and deſign it, how much leſs by Immoral men who if they amend, 'tis from a principle of fear; and therefore they will redeem every opportunity of infranchiſing themſelves and getting looſe from a reſtraint ſo troubleſome, and contrary to their inclinations. Beſides, how unwilling will they be to moderate their gain, leſſen their number, which muſt neceſſarily be done, unleſs we will allow the mentioned Inconveniencies, which cannot otherwiſe admit of a remedy. Beſides, 'tis natural for ſome to be ambitious of practice, not only as it is gainful, but becauſe it adds to their credit and repute, conciliates them more reſpect, than people think ordinarily due to ſimple Apothecaries; and therefore to part with their imployment in this kind, will not be without

out unſpeakable regret and vexation. And beſides, ſuppoſing, which is yet very improbable, that they ſhould promiſe to keep within due limits, reform abuſes, what other ſecurity can they give us beſides their bare word or promiſe, which is ſo much the more unlikely to be valid; becauſe, as I before intimated, it is not free but extorted: and 'tis abſolutely impoſſible for any beſides their own conſciences to detect all their fraudulent practices. For though Phyſicians ſee and allow of their Ingredients, behold them mixed, what ſhould hinder them, if any of the old Ferment remain, from increaſing the quantity with bad Materials? And indeed, neither Laws of God nor Man, good Inſtructions, excellent Examples, or ſtrict Obſervance of their actions, can hinder thoſe that are ill diſpoſed from acting that ſecretly, which ſiniſter reſpects keeps them from doing in publick. Therefore ſuch a conſtitution of Phar-

macy is desirable, where bad men shall be made good and faithful, rather that where those that are innocent meet with daily temptations to be dishoneſt.

This will be accompliſhed by Phyſicians taking it into their own hands; for then ſuppoſe them as bad as malice, or the Apothecaries can render them, how little ſenſe ſoever they retain of their duty, that of intereſt will ſtrongly oblige them to have good Medicines. *Machiavel* ſomewhere prudently adviſes, *That if you would underſtand what mens deſigns or intentions are, learn what will conduce moſt to promote their intereſt; and that they will chiefly aime at, although to the unwary Spectator, they may ſeem to look another way, and act another part then they intend.* There are but two caſes where this Maxim is rendred invalid. The one is, when men are over-awed with ſuch a ſenſe of Religion, as will not allow them to practice

practice what they apprehend would be highly for their temporal advantage: but this is so far from hindering the Physitian, that it is or ought to be the greatest incouragement he can meet with, the applauses and acquittances he will daily receive from his own conscience, proving an abundant recompense for the unusual trouble he will meet with in compounding and dispensing his own Remedies. The other occasion of invalidating the fore-quoted Maxime, is, when men mistake their interest and do not see it; which here is morally impossible for a Physitian's credit, and consequently his profit depending on the goodness and success of his Remedies, the better his Medicines are, the greater will be his gain, the higher his repute: Whereas the Apothecary, let his Medicines be never so bad, runs little hazard, the Physitian only being usually blamed if they cause people to miscarry; especially if the Apothe-

cary can confidently affirm, that his Materials were choice, carefully and skilfully prepared, which they are never backward to do: adding, sometimes such insinuations as have a tendency to disparage the Physitian, and introduce themselves, as was before intimated. Therefore now we proceed to shew that Physitians can manage Pharmacy. Secondly, That if they proceed in such Methods as we shall mention, or some other analogous great conveniencies, and advantages to the Physician, and Patient; nay, even to the publick, will be the result of such Procedures.

The Proposals that we make, are, That either every Physitian prepare and dispense his own Physick; or that they enter into Associations: either of which will be of great advantage to the publick. Nothing can in my opinion be objected against the first, unless the Physitian himself pretend that it will be too great a trouble, and di-

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vert him too much from his other imployment, of viſiting and adviſing the Sick, or conſulting in private with his Books, Reaſon, and Experience, (as every honeſt Phyſitian doth) in order to the Recovery and Relief of his Patients. Now to him that conſiders things attentively, this can be urged only by ſuch Phyſitians as have a full imployment, which will afford them to keep in their own houſes; or to have near them perſons skilful in Pharmacy, whoſe only buſineſs it ſhould be to provide ſuch Medicines, whether Compound or Simple, as they ſhall have occaſion to uſe in their practice, the Phyſitians directing and ſuperviſing them. So that ſuppoſing the Apothecary skilful, there will be little reaſon to fear miſcarriages; for the Apothecary will have no temptation to be unfaithful, becauſe it will not benefit him, his gains not being contingent (as now) depending on the quantity of Phyſick he ſells, his ſalary

being we ſuppoſe fixt and certain. But rather on the contrary it is his intereſt to have the Phyſick as good as he can make it; for the greater ſucceſs the Phyſitian hath, the more will be his imployment: and conſequently he will be the better able to gratifie the Apothecary for his care and trouble in preparing the Medicine he imployes ſo ſucceſsfully. But ſuppoſe the Apothecary ſhould have bad deſigns (which yet he can never have ſo long as he is in his wits) he will want opportunities to effect them; himſelf, and his Medicines being almoſt continually under the Phyſitians inſpection, who allows no bad drugs admittance into his Operatory, and may if he pleaſe, ſee them mix'd and duly prepared.

But Phyſitians will be freed from much of this trouble, if they take the advice of that late judicious Writer we have already cited, which is, That the moſt eminent among them enter-

entertain in their houſes perſons of three or four years ſtanding in either of our Univerſities, who are to be received in the capacity, not of Servants, but of young Students, Friends, or vertuous Companions, to be inſtructed in their worthy Profeſſion; and brought up in the exerciſes of Anatomy, knowledge of Herbs, mixing and compounding of Medicines, (the drudgery reſting on Servants) and viſiting the ſick under their direction: who when they are a little advanced, and ſtudied in this Art, may be appointed by the Phyſitian to obſerve Patients in his abſence, and give him an account of their caſes; by which means he will be ignorant of nothing material, although he be not there himſelf. They may alſo viſit their Laboratories, and look after the Preparations of thoſe Medicines the Phyſitians preſcribe; which as it will much eaſe the antient, ſo it will be of great advantage to the young Phyſi-

tian, who while he imployes his industry in such services as these for the elder gains (besides what is learnt from Books and Authors) his long experience sees his Patients, hears him discourse of their several Cases, considers the Medicines provided for them, and observes their several effects: All which advantages are now given away in vain to Apothecaries, to whom the practice of Physick does not belong. And if this has been the course that all mankinde has ever taken to raise and propagate practical arts, and trades of daily use in humane life, why should it not be used in Physick, which is a practical Art of much greater consequence? especially if we consider how dangerous the errours of this Profession are, and how necessary a practical education is for any man that intends the exercise of it. And though some through pride or weakness disgrace this method as Mechanical; yet without doubt there are many ingenious

young

young men in *England*, who would be very glad, and take it for a great honour to be thus received by ſome of the Grandees and great Practitioners: and their Friends think them well and honourably imployed.

But (to proceed in our diſcourſe, which was interrupted by this ſeaſonable Digreſſion) becauſe young Phyſitians, and ſuch as have little imployment cannot allow an Apothecary maintenance out of their ſmall gain; it being therefore propoſed, That Phyſitians enter into Societies or Combinations, (which indeed they do naturally, and many ſuch there are now in this City) more or fewer in a company, according as they have greater or leſs imployment: That theſe provide a place which ſhall be the publick Laboratory, for the preparing of all Phyſick, Chymical and Galenical. That they alſo procure one or more skilled in the Operations of both faculties; theſe to have, either the profit

profit of all the Medicines that ſhall be prepared: or to have a certain ſalary or allowance from the Phyſitians, yet to proceed to regiſter Bills, and receive money, as if they were concerned only for themſelves. So many Phyſitians frequenting the Laboratory, will be a double advantage; for if they meet with any new and extraordinary way of preparing any ſort of Medicines, they will readily communicate it for the benefit of the Society: and ſo many ſuperviſing Drugs and Operations, it will be almoſt impoſſible to erre, and difficult to cheat, if the Operator ſhould have ſuch a deſign, which would be the higheſt folly and madneſs in him who makes no benefit thereof, but is rather to his prejudice; as it will be alſo eminently of the Phyſitians, who therefore will not connive at, much leſs incourage, any Practices of that nature.

But to be more particular, the rea-

Reaſons and Advantages of theſe propoſals are very many, and of great Conſideration.

For firſt, if this courſe be taken, It will free the Phyſician from much Anxiety and Hazard, from which, he cannot plead exemption (if an obſerving conſiderative perſon) while he depends on the honeſty, care, and skill of an Apothecary, in whom perhaps he hath little reaſon to confide, upon ſome or all of thoſe accounts, I have already mentioned: Whereas now in this Conſtitution of Pharmacy, the Phyſitian will be ſatisfied his Medicines are good; and that he cannot be injured by the malice or deſigne of unworthy, miſcarriages or miſtakes of Ignorant or Careleſs Apothecaries.

2. This will alſo free the Patient from fears, jealouſies, and dangers; to which, they will be ſubject ſo long as the Phyſitian ſhall repoſe ſo great a part of their truſt in perſons, who

do

do ſeldome faithfully diſcharge what is committed to their care. How great a ſatisfaction will it be to them, for Phyſitians to put their affairs in ſuch a Method, that all the Phyſick is preſcribed, be prepared exactly after the Phyſitians direction? and That it will be very unlikely they ſhould ſuffer from any of thoſe miſtakes and miſcarriages, which have heretofore often happened? For the Patient knowing it is the Phyſitians intereſt to take care that his Medicines be prepared aright; that they are immediately under his inſpection; that the Operators have no bias clapt upon them, which ſhould make them run aſide, will throughly acquieſce in all that ſhall be done: which quietneſs, compoſure, and ſatisfaction, will promote the Cure, according to that of *Galen*, *Plures ſanat, cui plures fidunt.* There is greateſt ſucceſs where people have moſt confidence. Which in this caſe is far from preſumption;

For

For I ſee no reaſon, why they may not promiſe to themſelves, and expect better ſucceſs from Medicines, that are contrived with skill, and are prepared with the greateſt care; than from ſuch as are careleſly and ſlightly made, or which is worſe, Adulterated. Which brings to my mind a third Advantage.

3. If this courſe be taken, it will render Phyſick more ſucceſsful. For Medicines will be better prepared, than now they are, the Phyſician taking care himſelf to have nothing but what is good; which he could not ſo well do, when it was made up out of his ſight. Beſides, He is under a neceſſity of taking greater care to have all he uſes very good, and moſt exactly prepared; for no man can now lay any miſcarriage on the neglect or ignorance of an Apothecary. It reſts altogether on himſelf, and he becomes reſponſible for it.

Further, the Profeſſion of Phyſick will

will be exerciſed with greater ſucceſs, if Phyſitians prepare and diſpenſe their own Medicines, than now it is; becauſe then, all ſorts of men would apply themſelves immediately to the Phyſitian, whereby he will have opportunities of ſeeing the diſeaſe in its firſt riſe, which gives him a mighty advantage, for the true underſtanding and cure of it. Whereas now it is the unhappineſs of the Phyſitian (and indeed chiefly of the Patient) that he is never almoſt ſent for, till things are brought to extremity, and all opportunities of curing neer loſt; Whereas if the Diſeaſe had been encountred in the firſt riſe of it, with powerful and convenient Medicaments, the Patient had been again reſtored to health: whoſe life it may be muſt now anſwer for the firſt omiſſion. Beſides, that the Diſeaſe if met in the beginning, is often carried off with a little matter; which neglected, requires a long and troubleſome courſe.

courſe: Not to inſiſt on this, that more coming than formerly to the Phyſitian, enlarges his buſineſs, and experience. Neither is it a mean convenience, that Phyſitians will have no temptations, to recede from experimented Methods and Medicines, which I fear now they ſometimes do, eſpecially if they are eaſie, or obvious, leſt they ſhould bring themſelves into contempt with Apothecaries, and diſcover their practice; ſo as they might uſe it to their prejudice, which is now frequently done. Neither need they adde more Ingredients than are neceſſary, or thoſe that are of great price, and little efficacy to ſerve diſhonourable Intereſts. And preparing themſelves the Phyſick they give, will help them better to remember what had a good effect, and which had not, or failed; and how to accomodate themſelves to the ſame perſons at other times.

4. This will mightily abate the charge

charge and expenſe of Phyſick, the Phyſitians being contented with ſuch moderate prices for their Medicines, as will diſcharge what they expend for Drugs in their Laboratories, among Servants and Operators; ſo that if at the years end their receipts for Medicines amount to ſo much as they have expended on them, it is all they promiſe themſelves, or expect from others. For the Phyſitian will not, as the Apothecary now doth, depend upon the gain of the Phyſick he ſells to ſuch as come to him; but as he did before upon the Fees which he receives from perſons of condition and ability, when he is ſent for out of his own houſe: for the trouble of ſelling his own Phyſick, he takes upon him only to advance the publick Intereſt, ſatisfie himſelf more in his own Profeſſion, miniſter to the neceſſities of the poor, and conſult the greater ſecurity of all. Now the charge of Pharmacy (upon a modeſt compute) if this

this courſe be taken, will not ariſe to a ſixth part of what is now paid towards it; for we can buy Druggs as cheap as any retail, Apothecaries, and every Phyſitian or Aſſociation of them, knowing what Compoſitions they ſhall chiefly have occaſion for, ſuch only are prepared, and ſo much of them, as they conjecture may be ſufficient, till they have an opportunity again to make them, which ſhall always be when the Ingredients are fulleſt of vertue and vigour. By which means they will avoid that great loſs of Medicines which is frequent in an honeſt Apothecaries ſhop, where many Compoſitions are made, that are not uſed ſix times in a year; may perhaps not once in ſix years, as I have heard many of them ſeriouſly proteſt: which muſt neceſſarily occaſion great loſſes, unleſs they are kept till they have opportunities to vend them, as moſt of them do, although they retain nothing of the Medicine, they once were, be-

ſides the Name. So that in this caſe the Apothecary is inevitably expoſed either to be a looſer, or become diſhoneſt, This is to the prejudice of the patient, the other of himſelf, who muſt endeavour to repair his loſſes, by inhauncing the prizes of thoſe that remain; which doth alſo obliquely reflect on the patient, although of the two 'tis more excuſable, and both of them are avoided, by the expedient we have propoſed; Where the Medicines will be aſſuredly good, the Phyſitians intereſt obliging him to look to that, and withal afforded cheap, I mean at the ſame prizes they coſt him; Phyſitians being abundantly requited for their care and pains in ſeeing to the preparing their own Medicines by the ſucceſs they will have, and by it's neceſſary Concomitant, a full Imployment. But ſuppoſe a Phyſitian ſhould ſell his Phyſick to the meaner ſort of people, who give him nothing for his advice, as

dear

dear as the Apothecary now doth, it is ſtill a great benefit to them, they having advice and Phyſick too for the ſame rate they paid for Phyſick alone.

5. The leaving off the common way of ſending Patients to the Apothecaries, will be a great eaſe to the publike; eſpecially to the poorer ſort of people, to whom now the Phyſitian will have a fair advantage of being charitable, and exceedingly helpful as he will be: either if he let them have their Phyſick at the ſame price it coſt him, beſtow it on them freely or (which I ſuppoſe will be moſt uſual) teach them how to prepare it themſelves. For it's well known that Phyſitians who are Maſters of method, and well acquainted with the Medicinal properties of ſimples, do often effect great cures, by means, which to an injudicious Perſon will ſeem ſlight or trivial. And indeed if we ſeriouſly conſider things, we cannot but conclude that nature hath made perhaps

no leſs plentiful proviſion of remedies for the poor than for the rich, that Diſeaſes may be cured in the abſence of *Aurum potabile* and coſtly Elixirs; without Magiſteria! Syrups, *Apozems* or other chargeable Compoſitions. We have I perſwade my ſelf Medicines at our doors, or neer us; we need only gather, and ſlightly prepare them, and certainly 'tis no great labour or trouble to make an Infuſion or Decoction, to expreſs the juyce, or dry the herb, and employ the powder: and yet theſe eaſie and obvious Preparations are oftentimes (perhaps uſually) no leſs effectual then thoſe which are more elaborate. Now of how great advantage is it to the poor to be adopted Apothecaries by the Phyſitian; and inſtructed how to make their own phyſick, which coſts them nothing but a little labour? Theſe otherwiſe by reaſon of poverty muſt commit all to Nature, whereby they are often expoſed to a manifeſt hazard,

hazard; and many die who if they had ſeaſonably conſulted the Phyſitian might have been reſcued with ſome common familiar remedy. Beſides we ſhall frequently have opportunities of obliging the poor in another way; For Phyſitians having for their patients many Ladies, Gentlewomen and other Perſons of Conſideration or Quality, whoſe charitable inclinations diſpoſe them not only to feed and clothe the poor, but alſo to ſupply them with Phyſick, if they knew what was proper for their Diſeaſes; or how a Phyſitian knowing what Diſtempers are moſt frequent in his neighbourhood, can inſtruct them what proviſion they ſhould make in Order to their Cure, of Drugs, Simple diſtilled Waters, Syrups, Conſerves, Spirituous or Cordial-waters; and thoſe much better then any which are made in the Apothecaries ſhops. For I ſhould ſuppreſs truth, if I did not acknowledge

to the honour of that Curious Sex, that all those preparations they themselves make, are much superior to any the Apothecaries can produce. Now what I have mentioned, is not a meer supposition, or a thing desirable; but is daily practiced by many tender, sweet-natur'd Creatures: and if all Physitians improve the Interest they have in Wealthy, Generous Patients, I perswade my self it will become a general Practice. Which if it should, as these gallant persons will be commended by all men, and beloved by those towards whom they exercise this beneficial Charity; so without doubt these Actions will be acceptable to God, and have their reward in this life, and in that which is to come.

6. This will be of high advantage to Physitians, and those Patients of theirs that live in the Country, where multitudes miscarry, (and many even among the Gentry,) either under bad

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or for want of good Phyſick. For the Country Apothecaries not having certain vent for their Medicines, and few among them being well skilled in their Compoſition, to avoid charge and trouble, buy ſuch things as they have moſt frequently occaſion for, of *London* Apothecaries who ſell Medicines cheaper than the others can make them; and well they may, they being either the refuſe of their Shops, or fraudulently compounded, I mean, made either with old or periſhed Drugs: or elſe they leave out the moſt coſtly, which are often the moſt effectual and active Ingredients. Now Phyſitians in the Country comporting with the common way of ſending preſcripts to the Apothecary, eſpecially thoſe that concern perſons of Quality; Which Phyſick, what effects it is like to have, I leave to others to conjecture; for my own part I will not affirm, That any are diſpatched by it (though we have little reaſon to be-

lieve *bad Physick* can have *good effects*) but of this I am *most certain*, that it lets many die (which is little better) whom probably it would have restored, had it been such as the Physitian presumes the Apothecary is furnished with. And but that it is contrary to my nature, and the design of this Discourse, to divulge any thing which might be a reproach to particular persons, I could name several gallant Gentlemen, exceedingly beloved in their Countries, wherein they were very useful; who miscarried, as is verily thought (by those that are competent Judges) between the neglect and baseness of the Country and City Apothecaries. Whereas, when it shall be once declared by the Colledge of Physitians, That it shall be accounted no disgrace for any to prepare their own Physick; this will be the most pleasing News that can come to Physitians who live remote from great Cities, and have hitherto abstained from that practice,

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only to maintain their reputation, the Apothecaries and their adherents, endeavouring to blaſt the repute of thoſe that provide, and give their Medicines themſelves; branding them, in all Companies, with the ignominious Titles of *Empirick*, and *Mountebanck*: which injurious deſign often takes effect among thoſe half-witted people, that are greater admirers of Formality, than Realities. But the Colledge having publiſhed ſuch a Declaration, as I have mentioned, Phyſitians will receive greater encouragement from diſcerning perſons, who certainly will be beſt ſatisfied with their Phyſick, when they have it from the Phyſitian himſelf, which ſurely will be as good as he can contrive or make; otherwiſe he will ruine his Patient, his Reputation, and indeed himſelf by the loſs of his livelyhood, and ſubſiſtence: for now if the ſick miſcarry, from any defects in the Phyſick, the Phyſitian only can be blamed,

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it proceeding from his ignorance, or neglect, that he provided not better. Beſides, in many parts of *England*, there are no Apothecaries, or the people are ſo poor, that the expenſe of Phyſick is intolerable to them; and therefore the Phyſitian cannot help them, if he preſcribe only Shop-Medicines.

Now, Is it not a great ſhame, that Phyſicians ſhould not be able to teach the poor, how to provide themſelves with ſutable Remedies? eſpecially in the Country where Nature hath open ſo rich and large a ſhop, ſtored with all thoſe materials Phyſitians can have occaſion for, who want only the knowledge of their virtues, or how to prepare them: with both which they will better acquaint themſelves, when they leave off the Apothecaries, and take Pharmacy into their own hands, which brings to my mind, thoſe other Advantages that will attend ſuch a ſtate of Phyſick.

7. Phy-

7. Phyſitians preparing their own Medicines, and giving or ſelling them to the poor, without expecting any thing for advice, is a great advantage to the Publick, as it overthrows the practice of perſons that are ignorant of the Art of Phyſick, who now take on them to Adminiſter it, to the great prejudice and dammage of the people; eſpecially the meaner ſort, who now the charge of advice is taken away, and that of Phyſick leſſened, will much more willingly addreſs themſelves to ſober intelligent Phyſitians, than to Apothecaries, and other Quacks or Mountebanks.

8. This improvement of Phyſick will be of great advantage to Philoſophy.

Firſt, Becauſe thereby the practice of Phyſick being taken from thoſe who have hitherto uſurped it, and intirely ſecured to ſober, learned Phyſitians, will afford them ſomewhat more than an handſome ſubſiſtance; which

which of all persons living, they are most capable of improving, and most ready to imploy in Physiological Researches. This overplus will enable them to be much conversant with *Anatomical experiments*, not only about Man, but other Animals; that by comparing their structures, they may attain to the knowledge of the true and natural uses of each part: they will also busie themselves more about the investigation of the nature and properties of Simples, and be more frequent in the practice of their composition; and some it's probable will engage deeply in Chymistry, a most noble Invention, which seems equally calculated for the benefit of Medicine, and Advantage of Philosophy.

But *Secondly*, Pharmacy being in the hands of Physitians, will give them many and great opportunities of advancing the Knowledge of Nature; *Because* (as a Learned person hath judiciously

diciously observed) *Physitians will then be frequently invited to take notice of many excellent* Phænomena, *for the use and service of Philosophy, which now pass unregarded in the hands of Apothecaries and their Servants.* 'Besides, 'that by observing the several muta-'tions which happen in the Preparati-'on of Medicines, as well Simple as 'Compound, they will be assisted to 'consider what effects may happen up-'on their mixture with the blood or 'other juyces of the body; and give 'a great light to the Reasons of all 'the Appearances of Health and Sick-'ness.

But above all other parts of Pharmacy, Chymistry will most transcendently manifest its usefulness, in reference to the improvement of Philosophy; which it doth most signally promote, by discovering the nature and properties of those Subjects, which are exposed to its Operations: as it gives us a great insight into the

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nature of those simple affections of Bodies, we call Qualities, The knowledge whereof is the basis of a solid natural Philosophy; as it acquaints us with the constitutive Principles of most Bodies, whether Vegetable, Animal, or Mineral; informes us what are the great Principles or Springs of action in the production, preservation, and destruction, or dissolution of all Concretes. In a word, there is no part of Natural Philosophy, which it doth not highly illustrate and enrich, with many noble experiments and observations which would pass unheeded by common, incurious Chymists or Operators: But will be highly improved by judicious, observing Physicians, in Order to the increasing our knowledge of Nature, and our Power over her, which are the main intentions of Philosophy.

9. Physitians taking Pharmacy into their own hand, will be a profitable means of improving it. For first, it may

may be a means of inlarging the extent of the *Materia Medica*; and therein chiefly our knowledge of their Specifical Virtues. For then, there will be a more immediate converſe between Phyſitians, Druggiſts, and Merchants; which will be an occaſion of bringing into uſe many excellent Drugs we know nothing of, but what we read in Authors: by whoſe directions, Phyſitians can give them advice where they may be procured; how to diſcriminate the good from the bad, the Genuine from ſuch as are Spurious, and Sophiſticated; they can alſo inform the Merchants or Druggiſts how to preſerve many of them, which for want of a little care or skill, looſe moſt of their virtues, before they arrive at theſe parts. And as to what belongs to the Specifick properties of Simples, It is generally acknowledged, that of late they have been too much neglected. Now this is the only way to retrieve and improve that know-

knowledge, which will, I am perſwaded, be greatly enlarged by ſome new ways of Analyzing Vegetables lately invented; and which will be ſuddenly communicated. From which we may derive fair conjectures, not only what their Conſtitutive Principles are, and what proportion of each Principle is in every Concrete; but ſome other hints will be given by ſome, of theſe Methods of Operating on them, which will not meanly conduce to diſcover their hidden properties: of which I muſt ſay no more at preſent. Whereas it's well known that the Apothecaries have very little of Curioſity, being rarely tempted to make any experiment, out of the Road of our Diſpenſatory: So that Pharmacy may degenerate, as it doth daily, every one ſtriving to make Medicines cheaper, but few being concerned to have them better than others. Now Phyſitians, as they are more judicious, and underſtand the grounds

grounds of Pharmacy much better than the Apothecaries, as may appear by ſome of their accurate writings on this ſubject; and may be ſeen in their ordinary preſcriptions; many whereof are as exact, and the Ingredients no leſs Judiciouſly diſpos'd, than in thoſe proceſſes we find in *Pharmacopœas*. They are alſo acquainted with many excellent Chymical and *Galenical* Preparations which have been either Invented, or publiſhed, ſince our Diſpenſatory was laſt reviſed; and moſt know better Methods of preparing many of thoſe Medicines that come frequently in uſe, as of ſimple diſtilled Waters, Syrups, Spirits, Extracts, Tinctures, Magiſteries, as alſo of ſeveral Elaborate Preparations which may be made in leſs time, and with leſs expenſe then they now are, ſome Ingredients being ſuperfluous, adding nothing but trouble, and expenſe to the goodneſs of the Preparation. Farther it

being, as I have ſhewed, the Intereſt of every Phyſitian to have his Medicines well made, there will ariſe a generous emulation between Combinations, who ſhall exceed in that kind, which will put them on contrivance and Experiments. The reſult whereof muſt neceſſarily be of Publique advantage; for ſomewhat amiſs in former preparations will daily be diſcovered and corrected, inſtead of which, additions and improvements may be made: ſo that probably in a few years, Pharmacy will be very different from what it now is, and greater ſucceſs will attend better Medicines, Which will heighten the honour of that Noble profeſſion which ſeems now to languiſh for want of ſome ſuch Remedy; add to the repute of Phyſitians; and be highly beneficial to the Patient, whoſe diſeaſes will be cured more certainly, ſpeedily, with greater ſecurity, and more pleaſure (if there is any in courſes of Phyſick.) And

And here, since I have taken the liberty to reflect (a little unhandsomely, it may seem to some) on our own Dispensatory, I am forced to make a digression. The substance whereof is, that 'tis not my Opinion only; but the perswasion of most Physitians who are but indifferently acquainted with those Methods of preparing Medicines, which are of recent invention, That our Dispensatory is so far from being arrived at the highest degree of perfection, that on the contrary it is most manifestly, and in many respects very defective, abounding with pompous Prescriptions, some whereof seldom, if ever, come in use; And many Compound Remedies have been recently invented or divulged, which are of greater efficacy and larger extent than the best our Dispensatory can boast of. Besides in many of the Prescriptions that are of frequent use, there are superfluous Ingredients, which add indeed to the trouble and charge

we are at in compounding them; but little to the vertues of the Medicines, which would be better displayed, if they were omitted, the Preparations being rather clog'd than improved by them. And besides, Modern Industry, and Invention, hath found out better Manuals or Methods of Compounding Medicines, whereby the Ingredients are better opened, more exactly mixed, and in some more highly depurated; I mean, where the Active parts are freed from those gross useless portions of their bodies, which hindred them from exerting their salutary properties. And there are many Natural, Genuine, easie Methods of preparing Simples, especially Vegetable, whereby their whole Crasis is preserved intire, their vertues being rather heightned, then in the least impaired; which taken in a small Dose are more effectual than whole pounds of the Vulgar waters, Syrups or Electuaries. And as they

are not ingrateful to the palate; So neither doth the Stomach Nauſeate them. And they have this further priviledge, that in ſome years their vertue doth not ſenſibly decay, nor are they ſubject to corruption, as the ſhop-Preparations; and yet neither Honey, Sugar nor any Saccharine ſubſtance is imployed to preſerve them, their own ſimplicity or their being exactly freed from groſs unſutable parts, which are uſually the occaſional cauſes of fermentation and putrefaction, rendering them leſs liable to theſe deſtructive operations. Beſides it hath been the complaint of Phyſitians for many ages, that Flowers which ſeem to be made up of the moſt fine and active parts of the whole Vegetable, and are probably enobled with Extraordinary vertues, do, in moſt of the Operations they are expoſed to, looſe thoſe ſubtile portions of matter, from which we might promiſe our ſelves great effects. And I

confeſs it ſeems highly probable to me, that flowers are the *Compendium* of the whole plant, and poſſeſs more of their Medical vertues in a little room, than is contained in a far greater quantity of leaves, ſtalk, root, or fruit; and the wiſe contriver of the Univerſe ſeems to have deſtined them chiefly for Medicine. I ſhall not here mention thoſe reaſons and experiments which inſpire me with this perſwaſion; only this I dare affirm, that they afford more Noble Medicines, if truly prepared, than any other part of the Vegetable: at leaſt ſo far as I have made tryal. Now the ſhops employ the flowers, either dried, and then a great part of the Volatile active parts are exhaled, which being after decocted leave behind them a ſcarce ſenſible impreſſion of their preſence; Or elſe they are beat up with Sugar into Conſerves, which doth, as I could manifeſt at large, almoſt wholly change the properties of

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theſe otherwiſe Active ſubſtances: The ſame happens alſo in Syrups and all other preparations, where Sugar is imployed. For although many perſwade themſelves that Sugar is a moſt Innocent thing, keeping Simples and their parts from putrefaction; and that it doth not make the leaſt change in the Vegetables, it is imployed to preſerve: yet by their leave I do aſſert that it is highly queſtionable, whether ſimples mixed therewith do not looſe many of thoſe Properties, with which by nature they were endowed, Sugar being an Active body, a ſweet Salt (for ſo it may be ſtyled without a Soloeciſme, I having often made a Salt ſweeter then Sugar of Ingredients either very Acid, or exceeding Fiery) and is a potent *Menſtruum* or diſſolver of bodies. And though Metals are commonly reputed indeſtructible, it being well known that they are recovered from

all ordinary Solvents, the ſame Metals without any alterations that they were when firſt expoſed to their Actions; for notwithſtanding that they are ſometimes diſguiſed, appearing in the form of Volatile Salts, lovely Cryſtals, or are brought over in the form of an Oyl ſwimming on water (both which I have had my ſelf from them) nevertheleſs after all theſe Operations, the Metals are eaſily reduced into the ſame for weight, colour and other properties; and yet the Calces of theſe ſeemingly indeſtructible bodies, by a ſlight manual with Sugar over a Kitchin fire are ſo ſtrangely altered, that none of the ordinary ways of Reduction will recover them their Metalline form. And ſo mild an Ingredient of Medicines as Honey, only by Diſtillation is made, as Corroſive and pernicious as any *Aqua fortis*, made with Salt-Peter and Vitriol, diſſolving Metals much

much after the ſame manner. If then Sugar and Honey may, and do probably often ſuperinduce another Texture, and other qualities than they found in Vegetables, deſtroying the former; it were adviſable, that beſides theſe Preparations we uſed others, at leaſt on extraordinary occaſions; wherein the vertues of the ſimples are preſerved more intire: and wherein much is concentred in a little room. I will not deny but there is more trouble in making the latter, than the former; but extraordinary ſucceſs will be an abundant recompenſe for the expence of time and trouble, the charge being rather inferiour, or at leaſt but equal to what the vulgar Shop-Medicines now coſt: a ſmall Doſe of thoſe being likely to prove more effectuall then a great Quantity of theſe. And as for Flowers which occaſioned this digreſſion by a moſt facile

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and natural method without any additament, or ſo much as the help of Culinary fire, they may be converted into Liquors exceedingly Spirituous; and which may be kept without loſs of vertue many years. But of this the world will ſhortly, I ſuppoſe, have a more particular account; and therefore I ſhall let it paſs without any further Illuſtration.

But if it be enquired, *What Preparations of Vegetables they are, which are pretended to retain the whole Craſis and Vertues of the Vegetables intire?*

I anſwer, The Eſſences made by Diſtillation, *per deſcenſum*, in the Sun, which by other eaſie Operations, are further purified and exalted: the Eſſential Salts of Vegetables, I mean not the vulgar, but ſuch as have the exact taſt and ſmell of the Vegetables that afforded them, whoſe active parts are moſt evidently united in the Cryſtal-

Cryſtalline Salts, as appears by the effects; as alſo from this, that if the *Capious fæces* be Diſtilled, they yield only an inſipid Phlegm, and a very ſmall portion of groſs fæculent Empyreumatical Oyl: and afterwards the *Caput Mortuum* calcined never ſo long, yields no fixed Salt, which is in another form in the Eſſential, united with the active Principles of Spirit and Oyl, as appears upon Diſtillation. But beſides theſe, the Eſſences of Vegetables made by the union of their pungent vinous Spirits, eſſential Oyles, and highly depurate fixed Salts, which by iterated Cohobations become a ſimilar Liquor, wherein the Principles are inſeparably united, are noble Remedies; and though I do not affirm, that they retain all the Specifical properties of their Vegetables: yet I perſwade my ſelf, that if they want any, this defect is abundantly ſupplyed by the acqueſt of new, which perhaps in many caſes are much ſuperiour to

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what we could expect from the crude plant, most exactly appropriated. And that in a word I may manifest, how great alterations may be made on Vegetables by slight means, I will mention one Method more of dealing with them; whereby without any other additament than what they may receive from the Air, the leaves of all Vegetables being duly fermented and distilled, yield copiously a Liquour which rectified, is not to be distinguished from Spirit of Blood, Soot, Harts-horn, or other urinous Spirits or Salts: and mixed with highly dephlegmed Spirit of wine, they concoagulate into the *Offa alba*. And though some herbs, as Wormwood, *Carduus Benedictus*, Mugwort, *&c.* yield it more plentifully then others; yet all yield so much that a large Retort filled only with common Grass thus ordered, gives at least a pint of this subtile, volatile Spirit: which if often rectified, appeares in a Saline form, and is as

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penetrating and fugitive, as the Salt of fermented Urine. As for the *Caput mortuum*, in vain do you expect a fixt Salt in it; That being made such by the action of the Fire; it being volatile not fixed in the Vegetable, as this natural way of *Analysis* evinces. I have by me an intire discourse on this subject; wherein there is a great variety (I had almost said infinity) of experiments and observations. And sometimes I am apt to flatter my self into a belief, that this is the true, genuine, and universal way of extricating the component Principles of Vegetables; and that it will give us a greater insight into their nature, than any thing which hath been hitherto made publick. Besides, there appear during these Operations many things, which will prove highly instructive to those that Philosophize on other Subjects. But to return into the way from which we were diverted, I affirm.

10. That

That, Physitians preparing and dispensing their own Medicines will be of great advantage to the Publike, as it confirms the health of the weak, and rescues many from diseases, who would otherwise faint under them, This addition to the number of the living, and increase of their strength, being of no mean importance, the honour and prosperity of a Nation consisting in a multitude of sound minds animating healthful bodies; whereby they are rendred fit for the Arts of War and Peace. And therefore, we may presume that publick persons, whether the most supreme or subordinate Magistrates, will be so far from opposing such a reformation as this we design; that they will give us all the encouragement and assistance we can desire. And questionless, if there be any Impediments or Obstacles, which Physitians themselves cannot remove, as I hope there are not many, they have reason to rest assured; that

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our Great and Wiſe Counſel will in ſuch caſes interpoſe their Authority, which will extirpate whatſoever oppoſes it ſelf to ſo juſt and advantageous deſigns. For where any thing is of publick advantage, what ſhould hinder its propoſers from expecting publick Countenance? It being well known, that in all well founded Conſtitutions where there is a union of intereſts, there will be united Counſels and Endeavours. And we may farther encourage our ſelves from hence, that they who are ſo tender of every mans propriety, that they account every invaſion thereof, an injury done to themſelves, will not deny their aſſiſtance to Phyſitians, whoſe propriety alſo is ſtrangely invaded, the Uſurpers now being almoſt ready to plead Preſcription. And beſides, we ſuppoſe that they who are ſo much concerned to keep every man in quiet poſſeſſion of his own eſtate, will not be wanting to thoſe who would endea-

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vour to render them more ſecure of their lives; which are of ſomewhat greater value. And that the lives of many are frequently indangered by ignorant, bold, daring Apothecaries and Empiricks, hath been made ſufficiently manifeſt.

But beſides all this, If Phyſick be really, as is pretended, a uſeful Science, the Publick ought to take care it do not degenerate; and that its worthy Profeſſors be not diſcouraged, or deprived of an honourable ſubſiſtance. For it hath been ever obſerved, That where any Art receives greateſt encouragement, there it uſually ariſes to its higheſt perfection; and where its much ſlighted, there it ſooneſt declines: The Artiſts either leaving thoſe places, or applying themſelves to the ſtudy and exerciſe of more profitable imployments. This will be exactly the caſe of Phyſick, which whileſt it is eſtabliſhed in that degree of Honour and Eſteem it

may

may juſtly challenge, and the Profeſſors thereof are liberally rewarded, and duly reſpected: this countenance will exceedingly heighten their Induſtry, and put them on Actions which may manifeſt to the World, that they do, in ſome meaſure, deſerve the favour it ſhews them. So that ſome will cultivate the Anatomy both of the body and its humours, endeavour to acquaint themſelves and the World with the admirable Fabrick and uſe of thoſe parts whereof Man is compoſed, and the nature of thoſe humours which produce ſuch admirable effects as are dayly obſerved. They will never ceaſe till they have inveſtigated the nature of the ſtomach's ferment, a *Menſtruum* ſo univerſal, that there is ſcarcely any Animal Vegetable, nay, even Mineral ſubſtances, which can elude its diſſolving property, they being all by it reduced into a ſeemingly homogeneous milky liquor; they will then enquire how this comes to

be tincted with a noble purple dye, which they find it puts on ſoon after its admiſſion into the bloud, and how that nouriſhes all parts, leaving with each what is ſuitable to its nature, and then returns again for freſh ſupplies, running this round without intermiſſion till death puts a period to its Courſe. They will further examine the frame of the Lungs, the nature and properties of that air whereby they are dilated, its uſe in reference to reſpiration, and whence it is that we cannot ſubſiſt a minute without it. They will alſo more attentively conſider the nature of the Nervous liquor, and that truly admirable effect thereof, Muſcular motion; where ſmall chords, by means of a little ſpirituous Juyce, helped with an advantageous ſituation, perform actions which would appear ſtupendous if they were not common: And are a Subject which hath hitherto ſufficiently exerciſed the greateſt Wits later or former Ages ever

ever produced: But nothing will more deſerve their attentive conſideration than the propagation of the Species, in which proceſs there is not a greater or more pleaſant variety than obſcurity; The one ſerves to excite Deſire, the other to heighten Induſtry; and there is no Phyſician, who hath any ſpark of Curioſity, or ſenſe of his Duty, and ſufficient Encouragement, but will endeavour to acquaint himſelf with theſe great Proceſſes of Nature; I mean, the preparation of the food, its Diſtribution, Reſpiration, Muſcular motion, and Generation: To which we may add, the excluſion of what is uſeleſs or burdenſome. And then he can be no longer a ſtranger to her regular actings, and knows what are moſt likely to continue them ſuch without interruption. But before this excellent Perſon we would here characterize, I mean, a true Phyſitian, attains to this knowledge he is at the expenſe of much money, time, and

trouble; for howſoever Providence might deal with the *Protoplaſt*, the wiſeſt of Kings, or others in former Ages, and whatſoever ſome now pretend to the contrary, we cannot find that this Skill comes by inſpiration, but is the reſult of innumerable Experiments and Obſervations. One diſſection of a dead man is not ſufficient to inform him of his frame, doth not learn him the uſe or function of each part; he converſes with many other Animals living or dead, whereon he makes numerous experiments, which by Analogy and Induction he aptly applies to Man. Neither doth his learned toyl here end, this is but the *Præludium* and moſt pleaſant part thereof. He is forced therefore to conſider the body of Man, not only as an Engine of curious and admirable contrivance, of unmatchable workmanſhip, wherein nothing beſides beauty and order appears: But alſo as a Machine, which conſiſting of many

ny parts, and having great variety of motions, is often out of order, ſeldom long performing them all with the greateſt exactneſs, but ſometimes gives the skilful Artiſt an opportunity to manifeſt that he knows much of its nature and contrivance, by redreſſing what was amiſs, and ſome waies ſupplying its defects. It is needleſs to mention thoſe many diſeaſes Man is ſubject to, there being no perſon that underſtands himſelf, and others, who hath not a Scheme of them in his memory; and yet, although the Anomalies mans body is ſubject to are ſo numerous, and many among them appear exceedingly formidable to moſt Spectators; they may be all removed by the skill of a Judicious Phyſitian. But how great is his care, how unſpeakable his trouble, before he attain to the knowledge of the Symptomes and cure of Diſeaſes? How often is his mind upon a Rack, and he frequently perhaps too anxiouſly ſolicitous for

his afflicted neighbour? He makes it his buſineſs to enquire into all thoſe helps Nature or Art can afford him, which may prove conducive to promote their recovery; he many waies examines Simples, and uſes all means to extort from them a Confeſſion of their nature, deliberates whether he ſhould imploy them in their ſimplicity, ſlightly, or more elaborately prepared; and when he hath determined, adminiſters them with all due Circumſtances. Now, ſurely to inform himſelf of the Medicinal properties of Simples, to know how skilfully to mix, compound, and ſutably apply them, as it is no mean Art, ſo neither is it an eaſie labour, or an ordinary trouble, whether he derive his knowledge from thoſe that have preceeded him in the ſame Faculty, or from his own perſonal obſervations. And if Phyſitians, who are of ſo clear Judgments, ſo unparallel'd for Induſtry, have no more reſpect or conſi-

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deration than mean, empty, ſhallow pretenders, we have reaſon to fear that hereafter perſons of great Abilities and liberal Education will ſcorn to look towards a Faculty which, though noble and honourable in its own nature, is ſo low and mean in the eſteem of the World, that every perſon who hath the confidence to affirm he is a Phyſitian, although perfectly ignorant of the Rudiments of Phyſick, ſhall yet have no leſs countenance from the Publick, than thoſe gallant perſons, who after a long courtſhip have rendered nature familiar, are acquainted with the cauſes and cure of diſeaſes, and who have ſo well deſerved of Mankind, that I cannot but marſhal them next to thoſe Divine Perſons, who alſo, as theſe, are often ſlighted and neglected, *although of them the World is not worthy.*

But it is now fit I ſhould leave theſe idle melancholy ſpeculations, and preſage better things of the Publick, and

to ſober learned Phyſitians. For I perſwade my ſelf, I may promiſe them from Authority encouragement, and aſſiſtance proportionable to their care and ſucceſs; both which will be more conſpicuous, if they prepare their own Medicines: which I moſt paſſionately commend to their Conſideration. And that this Propoſition may meet with a kind Reception, and be more readily entertained, I will endeavour to return ſatisfactory replies to to whatſoever can be objected againſt it, by either Apothecaries or Phyſitians: For the moſt Noble deſigns have ever met with great oppoſition, and ſometimes a propoſal, which was made with a ſincere intention of Publike benefit, hath occaſioned the ruine or been otherwiſe prejudicial to the propounders; which would happen in this Caſe, ſuppoſing the Event of affairs did depend on the will of Apothecaries. But howſoever if they are reſolute, and determine unanimouſly

mouſly to oppoſe all reformation, (which is ſufficiently probable) they, and moſt of thoſe that are tied to their Intereſts by alliances, will endeavour to poſſeſs the people whereſoever they come, with an Opinion of the injuſtice, and unreaſonableneſs of the Phyſitians cauſe, and as plauſibly as they can maintain their own pretenſions; whereby they may poſſeſs many with prejudices againſt a moſt honeſt and Honourable deſign, who would otherwiſe have promoted it: For hearing the plea, but of one party which, if they proceed at the uſual Rate, will be well ſtuffed with falſities, denying many matters of fact, which are notoriouſly ſcandalous, and producing things in their own behalf, which almoſt every Phyſitian can eaſily diſprove. So that thoſe perſons, whom they ſhall thus abuſe, apprehending they are engaged in a good cauſe, may unawares oppoſe Truth and Equity, contrary to their Intention;

which

which they had never done, but through misinformation. Besides the Apothecaries may urge (where they have not confidence to deny truths as visible as the Sun) that these designs of Reforming them are indeed fine spun Speculations, but can no ways be reduced to Practice; That if the hedge be once broken, and the Apothecaries discountenanced, it will occasion greater inconveniences then those, for which the Physitians design a remedy.

The Inconveniences are some such as these,

First, *It will be an Act of great cruelty, advisedly to design the Ruine of so many Persons, who have most of them families to make Provision for. Besides that it will be a great injury to the Publike.*

To this we answer, that the Physitians design no mans ruine, their intentions are Innocent, Rational, and such as will approve themselves to all the

the world; And I ſuppoſe they are ſo far from deſerving blame for Endeavouring to reform abuſes, which have crep't into their Faculty, that, on the Contrary among wiſe people, they will meet with great Commendation and Encouragement: And for the Apothecaries to oppoſe them, becauſe their credit by ſuch proceedings will be Eclipſed, and their diſhoneſt gain diminiſhed, is, (pardon the Compariſon) like *Demetrius* and the Silver Smith's oppoſing the Apoſtle, becauſe, if the people hearkned to his wholſome Counſels, their Trade would fall to decay; a worthy way of Argumentation, and ſuch as is in the mouth, only of ſelfiſh perſons, who are more eager on their Private gain, then the Publike good. And the Apothecaries being ſo little concerned for that, I admire with what confidence they can expect the Publike ſhould be ſo deeply engaged with them in a Quarrel againſt

againſt thoſe who are it's beſt friends, and fall out with the Apothecaries, only becauſe they are enemies to the Publike; as moſt certainly they are if the leaſt part of that be true we have affirmed of them which whether it be, let the world firſt examine, and after determine. So that if the mentioned plea of the Apothecaries paſs for legitimate and valid, what ſort or profeſſion of men is there ſo baſe, and vile, which may not uſe the ſame Argument? Coyners, Robbers, Cutpurſes, Sophiſticaters of wine, who all pretend neceſſity of acting as they do, that otherwiſe they cannot ſubſiſt, but the Law is ſo far from approving of ſuch idle pretences, that it deſervedly, orders ſevere puniſhments, for ſuch as ſhall by fraud or force deprive men of their Propreity. And ſhall we animadvert with ſo great ſeverity on thoſe that take away unjuſtly an inconſiderable portion of a mans Eſtate, without which he

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can well ſubſiſt, and at the ſame time take no notice of him, that ſhall deprive men of health, and ſometimes life? This were like fiſhing with that ſtrange net, which keeps little fiſh and diſmiſſes the greater: There is no reaſon we ſhould puniſh offenders for ſlight faults, and find excuſes and evaſions for ſuch as are guilty of greater crimes. In ſhort 'where 'the continuance of a few diſorderly 'perſons in any place, employment, 'or Publike capacity, is inconſiſtent 'with the good and Welfare of the 'Community, it is ſo far from in-'juſtice, and cruelty to reject them, 'that it were both, ſhould we do o-'therwiſe, which is the very caſe of the Apothecaries, if their Medicines and practices be ſo dangerous, as we have reported them. But to be more particular in our reply, becauſe ſome deceit may be concealed in univerſals; Firſt, I ſay if it be ſo great cruelty to ruine many men in

their

their Eſtates, how much greater is it to expoſe as many, not once in an age, but every year, to a manifeſt hazard of loſs of health, or life which are ſo much more conſiderable, that the Eſtates and wealth of all the Apothecaries put into the balance againſt the life of the meaneſt perſon in theſe Nations, the latter will ſurely Preponderate. Therefore when we are in ſuch ſtraits, that of two inconveniences we can avoid but one, none but an Imprudent or mad perſon will make choice of the greateſt: But this is not our preſent Caſe. For all ſuch Apothecaries, as are found to be upright and honeſt, ſhall be well provided for; and the remainder may addict themſelves to other profeſſions: If they pretend unskilfulneſs, no one will regard that frivolous allegation, who obſerves their frequent intruſions into the Practiſe of Phyſick. For w^ch^, by what hath been ſaid, they appear more unfit, then for any Mechanical

chanical or other imployment; to the knowledge of whoſe Myſteries and Intricacies they may certainly much ſooner arrive, then of ſo profound a Science as Phyſick. But to put a Period to this Reply the Apothecaries may conſider, that there are in this famous City, and many other parts of *England* a great number of Ingenious Perſons, whoſe ill fortune it was to addict themſelves to the ſtudy of Phyſick, (for the event plainly ſhews it was their unhappineſs) theſe after great expenſe of Money, after long and intenſe Study, being become well Qualify'd for the Practice thereof, cannot have a ſubſiſtence, the Apothecaries having more in their own hands then would be a ſufficient maintenance for ſome hundred ſuch perſons, who are under ſo great diſcouragements, through the Coveteouſneſs and Injuſtice of the Apothecaries, as none can imagine, beſides thoſe that converſe with them.

Now

Now to retort the Apothecaries argument upon themſelves with advantage, we ſay, that it is a high piece of Cruelty and Injuſtice for the Apothecaries to deprive ſo many Learned, Ingenious Perſons of a means to ſubſiſt. And I make full account that the Practice which is in the Apothecaries hand is as much their due, as an inheritance, which is held from the right owner by the Artifice of ſome uſurper, and to take the Practice out of their hands, and turn it into the right Channel, deſerves no more blame, than he that ſhall reſtore an inheritance long withheld to the true owners; For ſince but one can poſſeſs it, 'tis fit ſurely, that he to whom of right it appertains ſhould enjoy it, rather than any other, how urgent ſoever his wants may be, how great his neceſſities. Thus all Circumſtances duly weighed, it appears evident that the inconveniences, ſome few perſons will deſervedly labour under,

under, is not comparable to the advantages the Publike will receive from their Secluſion or Reformation.

Another thing the Apothecaries plead in their own behalf againſt the Phyſitians, is, that they are like *Æſop's* Dog in the Manger (for ſuch an irreverent Expreſſion I heard one uſe) who could not eat Hay himſelf, and yet would not permit the Ox to feed thereon. So the Phyſitians will neither take care of the poor themſelves, nor permit the Apothecaries ſo to do, who are chiefly Converſant among them, adviſing and aſſiſting thoſe who would meet with little other help, they not being able to gratifie Phyſitians; who are (as one of their worthy Authors ſays) like *Balaam's* Aſs they cannot ſpeak till they ſee an Angel. Theſe being neglected (as they would perſwade the world) by Phyſitians, have recourſe to them; and they it ſeems being prevailed on (Tender Hearts!) by ſentiments of pity, let

them have ſuch Medicines as they think moſt appoſite to their diſtemper.

Whoſoever reads this plauſible ſtory which the Apothecaries ſet off with greater advantage than their Advocate can, will look on the Phyſitians as churliſh Levites, paſſing by their diſtreſſed brother, not vouchſafing him a ſingle regard; who there lies in miſery and danger till he is reſcued from both, by ſuch as vaunt themſelves to be ſo many Charitable *Samaritans*: But how well that title becomes them, and how groſly and palpably they have calumniated the Phyſitians, will appear by the enſuing Diſcourſe. Firſt, ſuppoſe the Phyſitians ſhould ſay to them (wch yet they neither do nor ever will) we cannot but approve of your charity, although we do not intend to imitate it; therefore we give you free permiſſion to concern your ſelves as much as you pleaſe for the poor, we allow you to adviſe, and give them Phyſick, either freely:

or

or to afford it at ſuch priſes as you may be no gainers, ſo neither looſers. This and a greater liberty we will allow you, ſo that you tamper not with the rich, to whom we will give better advice and greater aſſiſtance than any they can receive from you. Can any man think, underſtands who the Genius of the Apothecary, that ſuch Language will be very agreeable to him? No, the Contrary is well known, they make it more their buſineſs than the tending of their Shop is, to inſinuate themſelves into the moſt wealthy families, and find this Imployment more beneficial then their obſervance of Phyſitians.

But let us imagine, that our Apothecaries Shop is like an Hoſpital, to which there is great reſort of poor diſtreſſed people, all which he ſupplies with ſutable remedies (we will ſuppoſe the beſt) but upon what terms? Truly on ſuch as are very beneficial to himſelf. For, not a doſe of any

thing goes out of the Shop, which is not twice paid for; I mean is sold for double the value or price, for which they might afford it, and yet be gainers. So that by this time we see the Charity of the Apothecary is not so Conspicuous, as his Collusion in gratifying of others at their own expence. And that what I have said, are no Fictions will be attested by great numbers of Physitians, whose repute was never yet stained by unhandsome practices; and are so far from being such covetous, uncharitable persons as they represent them, that they have on the contrary often given their advice freely, refused money when it was offered them, if they knew or suspected the condition of the person to be very mean. And it's well known, that scarce any Physitian exacts mony of his Patient, what comes, is free gift, not extorted; whereas the Apothecarie will be paid by the poor immediately: and he alwaies gains more

more of them by his Phyſick, than the Phyſitian hath ever for his advice. Nay I am well acquainted with ſeveral Phyſicians, who pay their Apothecaries every year out of their own Purſes, for a large Catalogue of Medicines they cauſe to be beſtowed freely on poor Patients. I fear the Apothecaries cannot produce many ſuch Examples of perſons in their own faculty. And beſides, there is a great company of Phyſitians, of whoſe number I own my ſelf to be (and I am confident many others, with whom I am not acquainted, have the ſame intentions) who have ſolemnly obliged themſelves to go at all times to all Patients, poor as well as rich, whenſoever they are called; and if they are in a neceſſitous condition, to give them their advice freely: only they will be called by the Patients or their friends, not by the Apothecaries, who will endeavour to give them much unneceſſary trouble, and

put them to as many Inconveniences as they can, that they may make a benefit of their well-grounded refuſals. If any perſon be taken Apoplectical with Convulſions of any kind, violent pains, or any other dangerous diſeaſe or Symptome, we will not at midnight decline giving them viſits, although they dwell with poverty it ſelf; But it's unreaſonable a Phyſitian ſhould be called out of his Bed on trivial occaſions, and endanger himſelf to do that, which without any danger to the Patient, might be deferred till morning. To invite a Phyſitian to viſit them at unreaſonable times upon the aking of a tooth or corn, a ſlight pain or laſk of the belly, or to cure diſeaſes which are extant only in a depraved Fancy, is a moſt unreaſonable requeſt, and ſuch as the Apothecaries themſelves will not comply with. And indeed Phyſitians have been ever more ready (if I flatter them not, which I would not willingly

lingly) to Viſit and Adviſe the poor, where it has been only a deed of charity, and abſtracted from intereſt, than the Apothecaries.

Another Objection I have heard ſome Apothecaries make againſt Phyſitians diſpenſing their own Phyſick, and deſerting them, is, *That the publick cannot with ſafety allow thereof; for then Phyſitians might preſcribe their Patients poyſon inſtead of ſalutary Phyſick: and all this without any danger to themſelves, if they have any command of their Tongues and Conſciences. That this is prevented by ſending Bills to the Apothecaries, which beſides is a great convenience to the Phyſitians; for ſhould they be ſuſpected upon ſome horrid Symptomes or ill Accidents attending the Phyſick they preſcribe (which the Apothecaries well know ſometimes happens, rather from their own careleſsneſs, unfaithfulneſs or Ignorance, then the Phyſitians as I have ſhewed) theſe ſurmiſes are pre-*

ſently quelled by the Phyſitians, appealing to his Bills on the File, which on Examination being found to contain nothing of that kind, for which he is ſuſpected, he is without any more ado acquitted.

This Objection is ſo fraught with malice, and deſign, that I cannot conſider it without ſome Indignation. This is the firſt time that ever I heard Phyſitians were in danger of turning Poyſoners; and I do not remember that ever any were ſuſpected for that fowl crime, although it's well known the Apothecaries have not eſcaped ſo well. But howſoever this is a moſt frivolous Objection on many accounts, for firſt, If Phyſitians were ſo wicked, as this Objection ſuppoſes ſome of them to be, that they ſhould deſign the deſtruction of that life, they ought to preſerve, Is any man ſo ſenſleſs as to think they could not meet with Apothecaries, as ill minded as themſelves? Yes, I dare

dare ſay ten for one, beſides, Is it not very apparent that all people lie now more at the mercy of Apothecaries and their Apprentices or Operators, then (ſuppoſing the deſign we have propoſed take effect) they can ever at the Phyſitians? For although we ſend Bills to the Apothecary we can have no aſſurance, they are made up according to our Preſcription, but the Maſter or Servants may add what they pleaſe, without any but their Conſciences, being able to detect them. Therefore ſince they are ſo malicious as to ſtart ſo unworthy an Objection, we might retort it upon themſelves, and argue; ſince Phyſitians and their Patients are in danger of being poyſoned by every Apothecary or their Apprentices, Were it not much better that Phyſitians ſhould ſuperviſe thoſe that make their Phyſick, whereby they may prevent this danger? And ſince the truſt muſt be repoſed in ſome, whether doth not

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the Phyſitian more deſerve it, than the Apothecary and his Apprentices?

But we will not inſiſt on this, For I hope that all *Engliſh* men have ſo ſtrange an Antipathy againſt this horrid Crime, that I am perſwaded there are few amongſt the worſt of them would be guilty of it, although to ſave their own lives; and therefore we will acquit the Apothecaries, and others from ſuſpicion of a crime, of which ſhould they entertain the leaſt favourable thought, they would deſerve to be excluded from humane Society. But theſe vices I hope have not paſſed the *Alps*, and I wiſh they may ever keep within thoſe bounds; and that they will never paſs the Seas to us, ſo as to become *Epidemical*, my mind doth ſtrongly preſage.

But yet nevertheleſs, that no ground may remain for ſuſpicion we ſhall ſend Bills or Preſcriptions to our Laboratories, as duly as we now do to the Apothecaries, which neceſſity will oblige

oblige us to, many being concerned together; otherwiſe inſtead of that order, and Conveniency we promiſe our ſelves, we ſhall have diſcord and confuſion: but I ſhall relinquiſh ſo nauſeous and ingrateful a Subject, Whereunto Phyſitians might have returned the ſame anſwer the *Lacedæmonian* did to him that asked, What was the puniſhment among them for Parricides? *viz. That they could not imagine any perſon ſhould arrive to ſo high a pitch of wickedneſs, as to be guilty of ſo enormous a crime; therefore they had made no Proviſion againſt it.*

Another thing they are ready to Object to us, is, *That if Phyſitians reject the Apothecaries, let them Contrive their buſineſs never ſo prudently, Medicines will be more unskilfully prepared, than whileſt they Imployed them.*

To which we Anſwer, That the Contrary will happen; for Phyſitians will

will imploy, as I ſhewed before, ſuch ſober induſtrious Apothecaries, as are willing to be engaged by them, to which ſhall be aſſociated, ingenious Operators; all theſe Combining, certainly Medicines will be better prepared, than they have been hitherto; for Phyſitians the Inventours of Pharmacy have ever ſince been the great improvers thereof, and not the Apothecaries: Among the Ancients *Meſue*, among the Moderns *Renodæus*, *Schroder*, *Zuelfer*, *Quercetan* and *Others*. Beſides, its well known that moſt Phyſitians are Maſters of ſome Excellent Compoſitions, which are not extant in our *Diſpenſatory*, with *which only* the Apothecaries are acquainted; and many of them there are, have found out better general Methods of Diſtilling Waters, making Syrups, Electuaries, and other forms of Medicines than are commonly known: which if this deſign ſucceed, they will put in Practice highly to

their

their own, and the Patients advantage. And indeed there are few Phyſitians, but would preſcribe (if they knew where to have it) Phyſick more pleaſant, leſs Nauſeous for quantity, and Quality, than any is in the Apothecaries Shops. So that we ſee this Objection returns upon them to their prejudice.

And indeed, if we impartially examine things, it will readily appear, that many Phyſitians have greater skill in Pharmacy, or the ways of Compounding and Preparing Medicines than any Apothecaries. For if no Perſons are ſo well acquainted with the Nature, and Vertues of Simples, or with the ways of finding them out as Phyſitians, which is acknowledged by all; It will thence follow, that they in all probability muſt know beſt, how to prepare Simples, how to diſpoſe them to Operate with the greateſt advantage, which are moſt Effectual

with

with, and what without Elaborate Preparations; whereby the Vertues of many Simples are often deſtroyed not improved. And in Compoſitions they know the true Methods of mixing things together, that ſome may not annihilate the force of others, and ſo become altogether ineffectual.

But if it be further Objected by Apothecaries, *That the* Materia Medica *is ſo copious, Compoſitions ſo numerous, that it will be an unſpeakable trouble to Phyſitians to provide the one, and ſee to the Preparing of the other.*

To this we Anſwer, That a good Method with little trouble, will diſpatch much buſineſs, which in a hurry and confuſion, will require a far longer time, greater expence, more labour; and perhaps at laſt be more perfunctorily, and ſlightly performed then the other. But further its ſufficiently known that few Phyſitians, uſe a tenth part of what is in the ſhops; & perhaps if they made their own Medicines

dicines they would find a convenience in a farther contraction of their practice; I mean confining themſelves to fewer compoſitions, making amends for the number in the goodneſs and extent of thoſe they uſe, and they can at any time ſupply the want of a Compoſition (which yet will ſeldom happen) with Simples which as I have already manifeſted, would be ſo far from an inconvenience, that it would be a priviledge to Phyſitian and Patient, and conduce greatly to the encreaſe of our knowledge of the Specifical properties of concretes; wherein I fear we are very defective. And every Phyſitian knowing what Medicines he ſhall uſually employ, may have them only made, which perhaps are different from thoſe made in other Combinations, where he enjoys a double benefit; making fewer Medicines, he hath the more time to prepare them, and is likely to take care they be ſuch as they ought to be:

and

and making only ſuch as he is ſure he ſhall have occaſion for to diſpence, thereby having little loſs in their Medicines they can afford them cheaper; whereas the Apothecaries who make all the Diſpenſatory Medicines, looſe many, (they being never called for) and are put on the temptation of ſelling others, when they are old, ineffectual, and have loſt their ſanative properties.

Another thing the Apothecary Objects againſt the Phyſitians new Model, is, *That the Patients will ſuffer, they not having made Proviſion of Perſons, that are acquainted with many Operations, about ſick people which the Apothecaries perform with great skill and facility; ſuch are the adminiſtring of Clyſters, applying Leeches, Veſicatories, Plaſters, Pigeons, Cupping-Glaſſes, tending them whilſt under ſalivation, making fomentations, &c. and that otherwiſe they are very helpful to, & officious about the diſeaſed.*

To

To this we answer, That most of these little pieces of Officiousness, whereby Apothecaries do so much endear themselves to Patients (of which favour, we have seen, they make no good use) are either such, as may be altogether as well performed by nurses or others that attend the sick, by the Apothecaries of our Laboratories, or others we shall breed up to these easily learned Operations; which have nothing of difficulty, but that a child of ten years old by the Physitians directions shall accurately perform: looking to people under Salivation only excepted; whom the Apothecaries for the most part less understand how to manage, than many whom the Physitians having instructed shall depute for that service. but to proceed.

The Apothecaries may further object, *That neither Physitians nor Patients have much reason on their side, when they find fault with the dearness of their*

Medicines; which if the Phyſitians upon Complaint find too high priz'ed, the Apothecaries do make ſuch abatements as they think juſt and fit.

This will be a fair pretence, although I never heard it urged by any of them, neither do I believe they will truſt to the Phyſitians arbitration; but on the contrary I know ſeveral have flatly refuſed it. But ſuppoſing they ſhould all agree, let us examine whether this will give much relief to the abuſed Patient. For, firſt the Engliſh are known to have ſo generous a humour, eſpecially the richer ſort; that they will rather pay the whole bill without deduction, eſpecially if the ſum be not conſiderably great, rather than give the Phyſitian the trouble of enquiring into this affair, which is indeed unreaſonable, eſpecially if ſuch complaints were frequent: and nothing more certain, than that if all who were abuſed, ſhould appeal to the Phyſitian, he would

would hear daily as many complaints of Apothecaries, as he now doth of Diſeaſes. And that an endeavor to relieve the Plaintiffe would give the Phyſitian ſufficient diverſions from more ſerious employments, will appear, if we conſider that Apothecaries bring in their bills but once every year, when all circumſtances are forgot; which gives them a fair opportunity of adding to the true number and heightning the prices of Medicines, the Phyſitian not remembring what he preſcribed ſo long before. Neither is it to be imagined that a Phyſitian will, or indeed can have leiſure to examine twenty or thirty bills, and ſet down the true value of the preſcriptions, not to urge how unfit an imploym-ent it is for the Profeſſors of ſo noble a ſcience as Medicine, to decide ſuch controverſies. Beſides that there would be no end of this trouble, ſome of the original bills being loſt, only the common title of a Cordial or Purge

being regiſtred with their prices in the book. So that it will be impoſſible to make an Eſtimate of the value of Compoſitions, whoſe Ingredients we do not know.

The laſt Objection we ſhall think worthy an anſwer, is made by ſuch Apothecaries, as will not acknowledge (which we have ſo largely proved) their unfitneſs for the practice of Phyſick. All they have to plead is, *That ſurely people would not truſt their lives with them, were they not ſatisfyed with their abilities and ſucceſs. That Phyſitians indeed, may be better verſ'd in the Theory; but that they are as well acquainted with the Experimental, Practick part, which is the moſt material.*

To this I anſwer, firſt, Let them prove that any perſon who is not Maſter of the greateſt Chymical *Arcana* (for that ſomewhat may be done by them extraordinary, though exhibited by illiterate, unskilful perſons, I dare not

not abſolutely deny) can ſucceſsfully exerciſe Phyſick; and yet have none of thoſe Qualifications, I have before enumerated: Some of which ſeem not only conducive, but neceſſary, to the right adminiſtration of Phyſick. And for the vulgar to entertain a marvellous good opinion of many, who little deſerve it, hath been obſerved by wiſe men in all ages; and hath of later years been confirmed by many almoſt incredible Examples. I ſhall inſtance only in ſome of recent memory: although I might without exhauſting the ſtore, in many hundred. It's well known that a pretended Chymiſt who calls himſelf *Lockier*, hath gained by a Pill many thouſand pounds; which yet is one of the vileſt and moſt contemptible among all the Mineral Preparations, I ever yet knew tryed in Medicine. The Ingredients being certain proportions (it's needleſs to mention, though I have often made it) of Antimony, Salpeter, common

ſea-Salt and Charcoal; whereof more may be made in one Laboratory, by two men in twenty four hours, than I believe he hath ever diſpoſed of in the ſpace of a year: and is ſo dangerous a Medicine that no honeſt perſon skill'd in Chymiſtry, who is acquainted with it's Compoſition, durſt venture to exhibit it. It's true the gums and ſugar wherewith the yellow powder is made up, do add conſiderably to it's bulk; but the chief and only active Ingredient is taken in ſo ſmall a doſe, that I know few things which can poyſon in ſo little a quantity: and this hath been fatal to many, who never ſpake after it had begun it's operation, and others did long repent their uſe of ſo rough a Medicine. I could give the world a large Catalogue of its miſchievous effects: But I think they are generally ſatisfyed in that point; which is the reaſon that it is now diſuſed. But formerly what crouding, what enquiring was there

after

after it, and how highly did *they* extol it whoſe good fortune it was not to be prejudiced thereby? Now if this were ſo admirable a remedy, why is it not ſo ſtill? wherefore lies it neglected, if ſo effectual as was once pretended? But it ſeems long experience hath given the generality of people ſuch proof of it's noxious qualities, that thereupon, they have deſiſted from it's uſe, and learned a leſſon of abſtinence, which ſome have offered to teach them at a cheaper rate. But the wit of the vulgar is moſt of it bought, and many of them cannot avoid any other inconveniences, than thoſe they have ſuffered by.

Thus Time the Miſtreſs of truths, often diſcovers many of great importance, and the vulgar, though not ſo quick-ſighted to diſcern dangers at a diſtance; yet they can feel preſſures when they labour under them: and having caſt their burden, will never again admit of it unleſs ſo diſguiſed,

that it appears different from what it was before. And thus my mind preſages it will be with the Apothecaries, if their Ruin or Reformation do not anticipate it; for this encroachment of theirs on the Phyſitians Profeſſion, is of no long ſtanding. So that people are not yet well aware of what they ſuffer by them, but time and ſome more Experiments will open their Eyes; then the tide will turn, and that ſame water which carried them ſo merrily down the ſtream, will return them to the place from whence they ſet forth; and it's well if they be dealt ſo favourably withal.

But further, That we are not to take our meaſures of things from the opinions, and perſwaſions of the vulgar, will be yet more Conſpicuous, if we conſider, how many reſort to be baſeſt pretenders to Phyſick, that ever yet appeared; which may ſerve to abate the Pride, and Confidence of Apothecaries, who urge this is an Ar-

Argument of their own worth. There is ſcarce a Piſſing-place about the City, where many Bills are not faſtned; among which the moſt Modeſtly Penn'd, promiſe great matters. One undertakes a long Catalogue of diſeaſes, and among them (can any be blamed for laughing thereat) of thoſe that are incurable. Another performs wonderful cures by vertue of Medicines extracted out of the ſouls of the heathen Gods (by which I ſuppoſe he means Tinctures of Metals which he never ſaw) Many cure by direction from the Stars: Some by Phiſnomy and Palmiſtry can foretell events; and I wonder none undertake to make the Heavens more propitious, for if they ſhould I ſuppoſe there are many credulous enough to believe them. And how likely are moſt of theſe people, who make ſuch large promiſes to perform them, when they are not inſtructed in the Rudiments of any Single Art or Science, being moſt of them

them mean, Ignorant Mechanicks; who not being ingenious or induſtrious enough to ſubſiſt by the calling in which they were brought up, engage in another, the meaning of whoſe name they ſcarcely underſtand, and whoſe firſt Principles they are utterly unacquainted with: and yet the world flows in a pace to them they ſhrowding themſelves from the diſcovery of the Ignorant, under the Covert of pretended Secrets, which are uſually ſome ridiculous, ſordid Preparations, whoſe effects if they have any good cannot poſſibly be made out unleſs we have recourſe to the imagination of him that takes it. And if either they or the Apothecaries brag of any particular ſucceſs; We may anſwer them, as he in *Lucian* did the Prieſt; who ſhewing him the offerings of thoſe that had invoked *Neptune*, when they were in danger of Shipwrack, boaſted of the Power of his God which was manifeſted by the

the number of his *Donaria*, but how ſhall we know replyed he, how many notwithſtanding they invoked thy God, have nevertheleſs ſuffered Shipwrack, which he ſuſpected to be far the greater number. I wiſh the Application were not ſo eaſie as I fear it is. Thus we ſee that popular approbation is not ſufficient to authoriſe Practicioners of Phyſick, even by the Apothecaries own Conceſſion; who in all Companies do moſt bitterly inveigh againſt theſe pretenders, and diſſwade all people from conſulting them: which whither they do from a ſenſe of their duty or Intereſt is ſoon determined. I ſhall therefore take my leave of them, with this requeſt that they would Exchange the Motto of their Arms for another, which will better ſute with their actions. It is this *Eadem probamus, eadem reprehendimus*; for the Quacking Apothecary can plead little in his own be-

behalf, which the Mountebanks will not make uſe of in their defence: and urge few things againſt thoſe Quack-ſalvers, their profeſt enemies, which theſe, if they have ſo much *Latine* may not again retort on them, in the ſaying of the Poet;

——— *Mutato nomine de te*
Fabula narratur. ----

Now having diſplayed at large though not at full the injuries Medicine it ſelf, the Phyſitians, and moſt ſick people do dayly receive from the unwarrantable Practices of Apothecaries, nothing remains, but that I add a Proviſo, which I have had in my Eye all along this Diſcourſe. I would not therefore have any apprehend that, what I have ſaid againſt the Apothecaries, is intended againſt them all, being affirmed only of the greater number; for it would be the higheſt injuſtice to Comprehend them all in the Character I have given of their unworthy aſſociates: whoſe actions the Phyſitians do

do not diſſallow of, or declaim againſt more, than ſome among themſelves. I dare not, I ſay, accuſe them all of diſhoneſt practices, there being ſeveral on whom there is impreſſed ſo true a Senſe of their duty to God, and their Neighbours, that they are not capable of actions which will ſo highly diſhonour their Chriſtian Profeſſion, or injure their neighbour. Others there are, whoſe skill in Pharmacy, and Chymiſtry, ſecure Phyſitians from thoſe fears they would be otherwiſe Subject to, from their unskilfulneſs or ignorance, in one or the other. And here I muſt neceſſarily acknowledge, that I have met with ſome Apothecaries that for knowledge in Chymical affairs, have been much Superior to profeſſed Chymiſts; and of all that I have hitherto met with, I account them the moſt faithful and induſtrious: and which may ſeem ſtrange, they do prepare *Galenical* Phyſick, better

ter than moſt others, who have no other imployment; and therefore of all others in a New Conſtitution of affairs, they will deſerve the greateſt incouragement, as being moſt likely to be ſerviceable, and faithful to the Profeſſion of Phyſick, and Phyſitians. Who are ſo far from deſigning any thing which will be to the prejudice of ſuch honeſt skilful Apothecaries (who are all ſufficiently known to ſome Phyſitian or other) that on the Contrary they intend them more good than they can in the preſent way, promiſe to themſelves; and will make ſuch proviſion for them that they ſhall never have cauſe to complain, or occaſion given to betray, as the greateſt part of their Company have done ſo Noble a Profeſſion as that of Phyſick; Or ſuch generous friends and great Benefactors as they will find the Phyſitians to be, ſo long as they keep in thoſe due limits which ſhall with their

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own conſent be Preſcribed them.

But here I foreſee, ſome Objections may be made, by Phyſitians themſelves, againſt the Deſign of preparing their own Medicines; which although they are weak, and of little import, and deſerve not to be named after the mention of thoſe many reaſons, and high advantages, wherewith that propoſal is attended; yet we ſhall give them a fair debate, and ſo put a Period to this Diſcourſe.

It may be pretended by ſome that are guilty of delicacy, ſloath, or ignorance; and by others, who are either proud, or imprudently Zealous, for their own honour, and that of their Noble Profeſſion; *That it is below a Phyſitian to make his own Medicines, or give himſelf the trouble of ſupervising thoſe whom he ſhall appoint to prepare them.*

To this I Anſwer, That I would gladly learn, whether they are *Galeniſts* or Chymiſts that object this;

not

not the latter certainly, for then they deſert the Principles of their great Maſters, *Paracelſus*, and *Helmont*, who do Anathematize all thoſe that truſt to Mercenary Chymiſts for their Medicines. And as for thoſe who are the followers of the deſervedly admired *Hippocrates*, or *Galen*, I wonder with what confidence any among them can ſcruple, as beneath them, thoſe Offices wherein their great Dictators were ſo much Exerciſed. *Hippocrates* hath left recorded in many of his Writings, the care and pains he took to provide Simples, preſerve, and prepare them for Medicinal uſes; not only diſpenſing them himſelf, but making them in his own Operatory. And *Galen* viſited many parts of *Aſia*, which were renowned for famous Remedies; as *Paleſtine* for it's Noble Balſome, *Lemnos*, for it's Earth, and *Cyprus* for it's Minerals, bringing away quantities of them; Expo-

ſing

ſing himſelf to great hazards, labour, and expenſe, only that he might furniſh himſelf with the genuine Simples, and provide againſt the Cheats and abuſes of Impoſtors. He had alſo a Repoſitory where his Medicines were always, either under his Eye, or in his hand. He himſelf made Treacle, and never gave any Medicine of which he had not firſt taſted or ſmelt. Now could theſe great Perſons give themſelves ſo much trouble, and publickly acknowledge it, as apprehending it would rather enhance than derogate from the Eſteem the world had juſtly for them? And ſhall their pretended admirers, and followers plead exemption from ſuch imployments, becauſe dignified with ſome empty Title? For ſo indeed it is, where not accompanied with reall intrinſecall merit, although it conciliates more Reſpect and E-

 ſteem

ſteem to thoſe Gallant Perſons, who Honour their Titles and Dignities, by a diligent purſuance of thoſe Noble Ends, on whoſe account they were conferred on them; not neglecting any means which may make their Profeſſion more Effectuall for thoſe great ends of preſerving life and reſtoring health: Which if any Neglect, it is not their Formalities will gain them Repute, or enable them to Cure Diſeaſes. They muſt therefore in this imitate thoſe great Phyſitians, they do ſo highly Magnifie in their Diſcourſes, who did not refer to Apothecaries the Preparing of Medicines, but made it their own care; neither did they think it too mean, or below them to do with their own hands, moſt of thoſe things which are now accounted (by thoſe, who in their own and the worlds Opinion are much beneath

neath them) the Miniſtery of Inferiour Perſons.

I have by this time, I hope, returned ſatisfactory Anſwers to all thoſe Objections I can foreſee Apothecaries, or others, will make againſt Phyſitians preparing their own Medicines; which is a Propoſal more free from Exceptions than any I have hitherto met with. But let us ſuppoſe that it is attended with ſome ſlight inconveniences; yet ſince there is a neceſſity of a change, in the opinion of all honeſt judicious Perſons, I know no expedient like this I have offered, which in my opinion promiſes ſo well, that although through difference of opinions among Phyſitians and Patients, it may prove a difficult taske to introduce ſuch a change as this we plead for, many perhaps not underſtanding the good of it: yet I am very confi-

dent; that having once made tryal, both Physitians and Patients will generally agree, not to quit, upon any slight, frivolous pretences, what both one and the other find experimentally to be highly advantageous. I would therefore perswade them to deal with this Proposition, as they do when a fair new Suit of Clothes is brought them; which they put on, knowing, that though it be not exactly fit at first, it will either fit it's self to the body in wearing, or thereby more plainly shew wherein it may be mended. But if I flatter not my self and the world (which I do not if I know my self, or understand the things I have been debating) not only few or no difficulties, and inconveniences will accompany the mentioned Proposition; but on the contrary, as I have fully demonstrated, many and great advantages: whether we have respect

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to the Patient or Phyſitian. And indeed, what can be more deſirable to either, than to have Pharmacy put in ſuch hands, and in ſuch a method, that none having the Intereſt can have the Power, nor any having the Power, can have the Intereſt to prepare Medicines unfaithfully? Therefore if Phyſitians regard the Honour of Medicine, or good of the Diſeaſed, they will not neglect the means which anſwer theſe noble ends. And as it has been well obſerved in Government, That the ſafety of a Kingdom, or Common-wealth conſiſts not wholly in a Prince that Governs wiſely, while he lives; but in one that ſo orders it, that he dying, it can preſerve it ſelf: So the ſafety of the People (in reference to health) being caſt upon Phyſitians, it is not ſufficient that they are honeſt men, addicted to all the good ends of their Profeſſion, unleſs they be alſo skilled

and careful to put their affairs in ſuch a method, that theſe ends may be certainly attained to, not only by themſelves, but alſo by others that ſhall ſucceed them. Which will moſt infallibly happen, if it become the cuſtom and faſhion for Phyſitians to look after the preparing of their own Medicines; for then the common intereſt will oblige all Phyſitians to have them as good as they can contrive or make them. And let their Servants, Apothecaries, or Operators, be never ſo bad or wicked; although I will not ſay, if this courſe be obſerved it will make them good: yet it is attended with the great convenience of being ſufficient to prevent any influence their wickedneſs can have on Phyſick, It being highly improbable that they ſhould Sophiſticate or Adulterate Medicines, when they make no benefit thereof. And beſides, it will be almoſt impoſſible

to

to effect ſuch deſigns, ſhould they be ſo miſchievouſly diſpoſed; for they would be ſoon diſcovered, and for the future prevented.

Nothing therefore remains, but that I addreſs my diſcourſe to the Phyſitians; And certainly I need not uſe many more words to engage them in a deſign which Duty and Intereſt (the moſt perſwaſive and powerful Arguments in the World) muſt neceſſarily oblige them to promote. That it is our duty to reform ſuch enormous abuſes as thoſe we have mentioned, I ſuppoſe no one will queſtion; and that it is alſo no leſs our Intereſt, the Arguments I have produced, will render to thoſe that are free from prejudices, ſufficiently probable: ſo that as I am moſt certain, no honeſt perſons who will allow themſelves the liberty of reflection can be ignorant of their Duty, ſo

neither can they miſtake their Intereſt. It is true indeed, the Apothecaries give forth in moſt Companies, that they are not at all apprehenſive of any danger from the deſigns of ſuch Phyſitians, as ſhall endeavour their reformation, who they pretend are but few, and thoſe inconſiderable perſons; that the greater number, and they the moſt eminent Phyſitians, have their Intereſt ſo interwoven with the Apothecaries, that they cannot be ſeparated from them, and will never deſert them: but repute all ſuch perſons their own enemies, who ſhall attaque the Apothecaries, and all injuries that are done to theſe, as intended againſt themſelves. All which is a meer fiction, of their own deviſing, to deter Phyſitians, from engaging againſt ſo great a number, ſo potent a faction, as they would perſwade the world they are. But how groſs and palpable a cheat this is, will

then appear, when all honeſt, induſtrious Phyſitians ſhall unanimouſly agree to confute them; and I dare aſſure the world, that this will moſt certainly and ſuddenly be effected, unleſs there happen the moſt unlikely change in the humours, intentions, and reſolutions of men that was ever yet known: And for the Apothecaries to expect ſuch an alteraon, were to promiſe to themſelves little leſs then impoſſibilities. Beſides, Suppoſe any Phyſitians ſhould ſtand Neuter, or appear publickly concerned for them, they will be ſuch as will rather diſcredit their cauſe, than add to it any honour or repute; for they that ſtand Neuters in this quarrel, or vindicate the Apothecaries muſt either be ſuch who look on the profeſſion of Phyſick, as a meer cheat, a craft, rather than an art or Science, who believe, that as much is performed by thoſe that are

reputed

reputed the meaneſt Phyſitians, as by any other; the difference ariſing only hence, that ſome being more prudent and fortunate than the reſt, obtain a repute proportionable to their pretended ſucceſs, affable obliging demeanour, or cunning management of the People, working more upon the humours of their minds, than on thoſe of their bodies. And if there be any thus minded, I do not wonder that their Zeal ſhould not tranſport them too far againſt the Apothecaries; for if Phyſick doth ſo little influence diſeaſes, what matter is it whether the Medicine be made up of bad or good Drugs? Whether it be recent, or of a longer ſtanding? Whether made up of the ſame or different Ingredients from what were preſcribed? Neither will a perſon thus perſwaded, apprehend he is in conſcience obliged to reform theſe abuſes, which as I have ſhewed, are frequent among

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Apothecaries; Nor can he have the leaſt pretence againſt their exerciſing the practice of Phyſick. For if all cure alike, and ſo little good be done by the Profeſſors of that Faculty, then why may not the Apothecaries be allowed as well as any others? So that theſe, ſhould they oppoſe them on an account of intereſt, their conſciences rather reproaching than encouraging them, they cannot with any confidence accuſe the Apothecaries for actions, which if they be faults, they themſelves are guilty of the ſame; and if they be not, the ſame Principle which acquits them, muſt alſo free the other. *Theſe* probably, if there are any ſuch, will ſtand Neuters, and not much concern themſelves in a quarrel *de Lanâ caprinâ.*

But perhaps there are ſome of another humour, who make great advantages of the Apothecaries in

wayes

wayes I could mention; which for many reaſons, I forbear to manifeſt. Now if there be any Phyſitians of this latter ſort, who ſhall endeavour to uphold the Apothecaries, notwithſtanding they do not relinquiſh their former ill courſes, only becauſe they make ſome benefit of them; whoſoever, I ſay, they are that have ſuch ſordid Spirits, ſo unworthy the Name they bear, the noble Science they make profeſſion of, and the great Truſt repoſed in them; that for a little gain, ſhall betray their Profeſſion to ſcorn, and their Patients to moſt manifeſt hazards, Theſe diſhoneſt and unfaithful perſons will have ſo good eſpial kept on them, that all their prudence ſhall not ſecure them from having their ſordid actions diſplaied in genuine colours: which will render them ſo odious and deſpicable, that moſt will deſert them, and apply themſelves to thoſe worthy Phyſitians who

who are ſo far from countenancing the Apothecaries in their fraudulent courſes, that they had rather give themſelves the trouble of preparing their own Phyſick, than expoſe the Sick to manifold inconveniences: as they do who compromiſe with the Apothecaries in their unworthy practices, and ſhare with them their diſhoneſt gain.

FINIS.

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

ERRATA.

PAge 10. line 14. read *being*, p. 15. l. 23. dele *not*, p. 16. l. 1. dele *ſuch*, p. 21. l. 19. for *of* r. *in*, p. 23. l. 15. add *another*, l. 19. dele *for*, p. 29. l. 1. dele *ſtill*, p. 30. l. 24. for *ſuch* r. *ſo*, p. 40. l. 4. r. *Newcaſtle*, l. 24. dele *but*, p. 46 l. 4. dele the *period*, p. 50. l. 2. r. *the Ens Veteris*, p. 51. l. 1. r. *and are*, p. 53. l. 20. dele *the*, p. 61. l. 12. r. *that ſeem not to have any affinity*, p. 65. l. 24. dele *can*, p. 72. l. 18. for *in* r. *on*, p. 108. l. 7. for *Pffections* r. *Affections*, p. 110. l. 7. for *Ponſideration* r. *Conſideration*, l. 14. dele *all*, p. 112. l. 3. r. *detects*, p. 190. l. 16. r. *dilating*, p. 193. l. 25. dele *long*, p. 209. l. 6. for *dyes before* r. *dyes, although before*, p. 216. l. 14. dele *ſhall*, p. 218. l. 19. after *Phyſick*, add *and its regulation*, p. 233. l. 13. for *it being* r. *it is*, p. 254. l. 24 for *profitable* r. *probable*, p. 255. l. 5. for *converſe* r. *commerce*, p. 226 l. 5. dele *and*, p. 267. l. 3. r. *Copious*, p. 273. l. 7. dele *in ſome meaſure*, p. 291. l. 8. r. *who underſtands.*